

## **Deliverable 1.8**

### **Lessons learned from synergy**

workshops

Author(s): Anne Kleyböcker, Cecilia Bruni, Andrea Naves Arnaldos

Date: 27/05/2022



The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



#### **Technical References**

Project Acronym	ULTIMATE
Project Title	ULTIMATE: indUstry water-utiLiTy symblosis for a sMarter wATer society
Project Coordinator	Gerard van den Berg KWR
Project Duration	01.06.2020 – 31.05.2024 (48 months)

Deliverable No.	1.8
Dissemination level <sup>1</sup>	PU
Work Package	1
Task	1.5
Lead beneficiary	KWB
Contributing beneficiary(ies)	UNIVPM, EUT
Author(s)	A. Kleyböcker, C. Bruni, A. Naves Arnaldos
Quality Assurance	F. Fatone, A. Naves Arnaldos, G. van den Berg
Due date of deliverable	31.05.2022
Actual submission date	30.05.2022

<sup>1</sup> PU = Public

PP = Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)

RE = Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)

CO = Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)





#### **Document history**

V	Date	Author(s) /Reviewer(s) (Beneficiary)	Description
0.1	25.04.2022	A. Kleyböcker, C. Bruni, A. Naves Arnaldos	First version sent to internal reviewer
0.2	02.05.2022	F. Fantone	Feedback internal review
0.3	09.05.2022	A. Kleyböcker, C. Bruni, A. Naves Arnaldos	Feedback addressed and sent to external reviewer
0.4	16.05.2022	A. Perkis	Feedback external review
0.5	20.05.2022	A. Kleyböcker, C. Bruni, A. Naves Arnaldos	Feedback addressed and sent to QA (Andrea/Gerard)
1	30.05.2022	A. Kleyböcker, C. Bruni, A. Naves Arnaldos	Feedback addressed and submitted to EC





### **Executive Summary**

#### Background and objective of the synergy workshops

Ultimate aims to promote, establish and extend water smart industrial symbioses (WSIS) between the industrial sector and service providers of the water sector. The WSIS are the foundation for a successful implementation of circular economy technologies, because one partner produces the resource and the other partner has the demand for product. Thus, they cooperate to create a win-win situation for a WSIS. In Ultimate, circular economy technologies are developed and demonstrated via a symbiotic management through the WSIS at nine case studies.

In this frame, eight workshops have been conducted for the case studies to identify synergies among the Ultimate partners and with other Horizon 2020 projects such as B-WaterSmart (GA 869171), Water Mining (GA 869474), REwaise (GA 869496) and Wider Uptake (GA 869283), NextGen (GA 776541), Smart-Plant (GA 690323), Sea4value (GA 869703), Run4life (GA 730285), digital-water.city (GA 820954), Fiware4water (GA 821036), Routes (GA 265156), Res-urbis (GA 730349), Water2Return (GA 730398) as well as two national projects such as Sludge4.0 (7165.24052017.112000002) and BioKS (0324029A).

This deliverable provides an overview about the take home-messages from the workshops, the lessons learned from the discussions and the opportunities for further corporations among the case studies and sister projects.

#### Lessons learned in general

In general, we learned from the workshops that we should plan our Ultimate solutions with a technological flexibility to easily change the experimental set-up in order to conduct different kind of trials which might even simulate a critical state of the investigated processes and which allow the project participants to follow new "crazy" ideas that might have a risk to fail, but also suggest a high benefit, in the case they do not fail.

In terms of the WSIS, we identified the most important success factor to be the commitment and willingness to act together to "make it happen". Therefore, a common goal is necessary, success stories as motivation to act together and a charismatic person serving as an initiator to spread and start ideas among the partners. Another important success factor is an open and evidence-based communication to convince people and to gain their trust.

Based on the knowledge, how important an open and evidence-based communication is for a WSIS, we conclude that this is also true for a project consortium involving multiple WSISs. Hence, the continuation of our workshops, which focus mainly on the development and optimisation of our technologies, is seen as a crucial step towards the successful project execution to inform and involve all project partners even those, who are not directly involved case study specific tasks. Furthermore, the technology





evidence base (Kleyböcker et al. 2021a; <u>https://mp.uwmh.eu/teb/</u>) will contribute to an open and evidence-based communication about the outcomes of our project and spread the successful circular economy solutions in Europe.

In the following three paragraphs, the lessons learned from the technological workshops for water, material and energy recovery and reuse are outlined.

#### Water recovery workshops

The membrane technology workshop revealed, a further demand for research in terms of the development of new membrane materials, the optimisation of membrane properties and their configurations. If membrane technologies are combined and implemented sequentially, these treatment trains allow to obtain higher water recovery rates and better water qualities, promoting water reuse and fostering circular economy. Furthermore, wastes streams, normally brines, are minimised. A special and novel application of membranes, is the small bioreactor platform. It can be implemented in existing biological treatment units to cope with shock loads to increase their treatment capacity. It is a small-scale standalone solution with low costs. For the recovery of fit-for-purpose water from biotech effluent with high fractions of non-degradable organic matter, the possibility to reduce operations costs is investigated. Therefore, a novel ultra-tight ultrafiltration membrane is used as pre-treatment upstream to a reverse osmosis membrane. The goal is to reduce the demand for cleaning in place treatments of the reverse osmosis membrane as well as reducing the demand for coagulants upstream of the membranes.

The adsorption technology workshop showed that a low-cost alternative to remove ammonium from water is via adsorption processes. They are more energy efficient than a standard reverse osmosis. In general, the adsorption technology is very versatile in terms of inorganic and organic pollutants removal from water. However, adsorbent characteristics and properties have a great impact on the pollutant's removal selectivity and efficiency. Therefore, the adsorption technologies can be used in two ways: to remove pollutants from wastewater and to recover materials from the regeneration solutions. Although adsorption is a well-known technology, current research is focused on the development of new adsorbent materials, for instance, structures printed in 3D or adsorbents produced from renewable materials.

#### **Energy recovery workshops**

The biogas technology workshop revealed that anaerobic treatment processes in combination with biogas recovery allow for a decrease in the organic loading rate to the downstream activated sludge process and hence, for a lower  $CO_2$  footprint of a WWTP. However, special attention should be paid to the methane recovery from effluents of anaerobic reactors. This is an important treatment step to avoid high methane losses, which is crucial when aiming for lower  $CO_2$  footprint.





In addition, the reuse of excess heat can contribute to a decrease in the CO<sub>2</sub>-footprint of a technology. For two of our Ultimate processes, low grade excess heat might be beneficially reused. For the ammonia air stripping process, excess heat can be used to increase its process temperature to save chemicals for an otherwise required increase in pH to reach the same ammonia recovery rate. Furthermore, the increase in the temperature of the feed stream of a reverse osmosis filtration unit might increase the energy efficiency of the filtration process due to a lower dynamic viscosity of the feed stream. However, higher temperatures can also lead to higher organic fouling rates, what would be a disadvantage.

From the discussion about high temperature - aquifer thermal energy storages (HT-ATES), we learned that the bigger the storage is and the better the layer to the upper subsurface isolates, the higher the heat or cold recovery efficiencies are.

A temperature shift in the ATES from 15-18 °C to 25-40 °C did not show a severe effect on the geohydrological environment. However, at higher temperatures heavy metals were released. As soon as the temperature decreased, the heavy metals precipitated again. The temperature increase was suitable to compensate the imbalance of a higher heat demand in winter compared to the cooling demand in summer.

Depending on the characteristics of the geothermal system, microbial induced corrosion can severely affect the stable operation of such a system. Sulphur oxidising bacteria clearly indicate an oxygen ingress to a borehole after geothermal plant downtimes, especially when gas measurements are not sensitive enough to detect those. Periodic heat shocks are a promising procedure to reduce biofilms and thus, to diminish microbial induced corrosion processes.

In general, a way to increase energy efficiency at a wastewater treatment plant is to avoid over-aeration and hence, to maintain a demand-driven aeration process. Therefore, digitalisation in combination with modelling are valuable tools. However, a model can be only as good as the quality of its used data is. Thus, reliable sensors and regular maintenance of those are mandatory. Hence, data validation and reconciliation as well as its quality control are crucial. Furthermore, developments of digital solutions based on Fiware architecture allow for a better compatibility and open access. This will help to replicate such solutions.

#### Material recovery workshops

In terms of nutrient recovery, different innovative technologies have been successfully implemented and applied for wastewater, sludge and kitchen waste such as advanced biodrying and composting, bioelectrochemical systems and ultra-low-flush toilets coupled with (hyper-)thermophilic anaerobic digestion. Within Ultimate, different technologies are under investigation to recover nutrients from greenhouse, distillery and brewery wastewaters that refer to similar topics such electrodialysis,





electrostimulated anaerobic digestion systems and struvite recovery. The main barriers for the implementation of such concepts were related to regulatory gaps, the need of increasing social acceptance and market competition.

The recovery of value-added compounds can bring multiple advantages: removing of components which are harmful for a specific treatment, obtaining marketable products, allowing for the reuse of a residual/out of specification material. Recovery of value-added compounds usually require the implementation of different treatment steps to be implemented in existing plants. Both laboratory and pilot tests are a key step for the implementation of a value-added compound recovery process. The quality of the final product is fundamental for the market accessibility; specific treatment steps are usually necessary to reach an adequate quality. The legislation is fundamental for the recognition of a recovered material as product, if it is generated by a waste (end-of-waste).

#### Exploitation and EU-added value of workshop outcomes

The workshops resulted in a synergetic networking between Ultimate and its sister projects B-WaterSmart, Water Mining, REwaise and Wider Uptake. In addition, those projects learned from further progressed projects such as NextGen, Smart-Plant, Sea4value, Run4life, Digital-water.city and Fiware4water, Routes, Res-urbis, Water2Return, Sludge4.0 and BioKS. The case study leaders profit from the lessons learned and discussions about their concepts to set up their demo cases properly. This will contribute to the successful implementation of thoughtful Ultimate solutions and provide useful results for new approaches and best practices of the Ultimate solutions within symbioses clusters (D1.3, D1.4, and D1.5) and for the technology evidence base (TEB, D1.7). The collection and open access presentation of the technologies in this evidence base will support decision makers and investors to gain a fast overview of the opportunities and proven concepts of circular economy. Together with the Marketplace (D5.5), the TEB will severely contribute to the transition from a linear to a circular economy in Europe.

Ultimate promotes technologies that are in line with the ambitions of the European Green Deal (European Commission 2019) its Action Plan for Circular Economy (European Commission 2020) to reduce strongly our greenhouse gas emissions, to provide clean water, to maintain healthy soil, make industry resilient and produce cleaner energy. The TEB presents technologies that can be applied in the frame of the Regulation (EU) 2020/741 on minimum requirements for water reuse, the Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 laying down rules on the making available on the market of EU fertilising products and the Directive (EU) 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources.





#### Outlook

The workshops will continue throughout the project, because they revealed to deliver valuable information for the participants and identified important topics for further cooperation and discussion among the Ultimate partners and the other projects. Hence, further workshops are planned for the following topics in cooperation with the other work packages:

- Legal risk assessments of the Ultimate solutions and policy gaps (in cooperation with WP2 and WP4)
- Lessons learned from the installation and start-up of the pilot plants (in cooperation with WP5)
- Technical risk assessments of the Ultimate solutions and potential for replication of the concepts (in cooperation with WP2 and WP5)
- Chemical risk assessment of the products as well as their reuse and marketability (in cooperation with WP2 and WP5)





### **Disclaimer**

This publication reflects only the author's views and the European Union is not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.





#### **Table of Contents**

1.	INTRODUCTION	13	
2.	LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE SYNERGY WORKSHOPS	15	
2.1. 2.2. 2.3. 2.4. 2.5. 2.6. 2.7. 2.8.	WATER RECOVERY: MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGIES	17 21 25 28 32 36 40 43	
3.	SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION	47	
4.	REFERENCES	50	
ANNE	ANNEX1-8 ARE ATTACHED AS EXTRA FILES:		





#### Abbreviations

AAT	Advanced anaerobic treatment (immobilised high-rate anaerobic reactor)
AI	Artificial intelligence
AnMBR	Anaerobic membrane bioreactor
AM	Additive manufacturing
AOP	Advanced oxidation process
ATES	Aquifer thermal energy storage
BES	Bioelectrochemical systems
CAPEX	Capital expenditures
CE	Circular economy
COD	Chemical oxygen demand
CS	Case study
CTG	Cross-cutting technology group
ELSAR	Electrostimulated anaerobic reactor
GAC	Granulated activated carbon
HTAD	Hyper-thermophilic anaerobic digestion
HT-ATES	High temperature aquifer thermal energy storage
HTC	Hydrothermal carbonisation
LTE	Low temperature evaporator
MBR	Membrane bioreactor
MED	Multi-effect distillation
NPK	Nitrogen phosphorus potassium
nZLD	Near zero liquid discharge
PE	Population equivalent
PHA	Polyhydroxyalkanoate
RO	Reverse osmosis
SBP	Small bioreactor platform
SBR	Sequencing batch reactor
SCWE	Supercritical water extraction
SME	Small and medium enterprises
SOB	Sulphur oxidising bacteria
TEB	Technology evidence base
UASB	Upflow anaerobic sludge blanket
UF	Ultrafiltration
WSIS	Water smart industrial symbiosis
WWTP	Wastewater treatment plant





#### Table of tables

Table 1	Overview about the Ultimate case studies, their type of symbiosis, their resource	es
	and their field of activity for circular economy solutions	. 13
Table 2	Overview about the discussed Ultimate concepts	. 15

#### Table of figures

Figure 1	Cross-cutting technology groups and their sub-categories related to the types	of
-	technologies applied in Ultimate	14





### 1. Introduction

Ultimate aims to promote, establish and extend water smart industrial symbioses (WSIS) between the industrial sector and service providers of the water sector. The WSIS are the foundation for a successful implementation of circular economy technologies, because one partner produces the resource and the other partner has the demand for product. Thus, they cooperate to create a win-win situation for WSIS. In Ultimate, circular economy technologies are developed and demonstrated via a symbiotic management at nine case studies distributed across Europe and Israel (Table 1).

Case study	Water Smart Industrial Symbioses	Resources	Closing the cycles of WATER, ENERGY, MATERIAL
<b>CS1</b> Tarragona (ES)	Internal symbiosis within multi-industry utility: municipal and industrial WWTP & urban WRP	Municipal wastewater and industrial wastewater from the petrochemical complex	
CS2 Nieuw Prinsenland (NL)	Internal symbiosis within cooperative: greenhouses & water treatment facility	Drain water from greenhouses; residual and geothermal heat	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
<b>CS3</b> Rosignano (IT)	Municipal utility, multi- industry utility & SME: Sewer system, municipal WWTP, WRP	Municipal wastewater mixed with seawater due to an undesired intrusion of seawater; byproducts from industry for reuse in water treatment	<ul> <li></li> </ul>
CS4 Nafplio (EL)	Industrial utility & SME: industrial WWTP	Wastewater from fruit processing industry	✓
CS5 Lleida (ES)	Municipal utility & multi- industry utility: industrial WWTP & municipal WWTP	Wastewater from brewery & municipal wastewater	<ul> <li>✓</li> <li>✓</li> </ul>
<b>CS6</b> Karmiel/ Shafdan (IL)	Municipal utility & two SMEs: two municipal WWTPs & WRP	Wastewater from olive oil production, slaughter- houses and wineries & municipal wastewater	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
CS7 Tain (UK)	<b>Distillery, water company,</b> <b>&amp; SME</b> : industrial WWTP	Wastewater from whiskey distillery	×
CS8 Chem. Platform Roussillion (FR)	Internal symbiosis within multi-industry utility: industrial WWTP	Wastewater from chemical industry	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
<b>CS9</b> Kalundborg (DK)	Municipal utility & multi- industry utility: municipal WWTP & industrial WWTP	Wastewater from pharma & biotech industry and municipal wastewater	<ul> <li></li> <li></li> </ul>

Table 1Overview about the Ultimate case studies, their type of symbiosis, their resources and<br/>their field of activity for circular economy solutions



More information regarding the baseline conditions for each case study and the detailed description of each WSIS can be found in Kleyböcker et al. (2021b).

Depending on the type of wastewater and resource, different treatment trains are applied. In total, 21 innovative technologies are investigated in Ultimate. In order to exploit synergies between the different recovery groups for water, material and energy, similar concepts and the development as well as the performance of those technologies were and will be discussed in so called cross-cutting technology groups (CTGs). For each CTG, different topics were defined as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1 Cross-cutting technology groups and their sub-categories related to the types of technologies applied in Ultimate

In this frame, eight workshops have been conducted, each dedicated to one of the topics in Figure 1. In the workshops, the Ultimate concepts were discussed and external experts from ten other H2020 projects had been invited to share their lessons learned with the Ultimate consortium and to discuss the Ultimate concepts.

This deliverable provides an overview about the take home-messages from the different presenters for each workshop, the lessons learned from the discussions and the opportunities for further corporations among the case studies and sister projects.





# 2. Lessons learned from the synergy workshops

The conducted workshops are outlined in Table 2. It also provides an overview about the case study specific technologies and the projects, from which we learned. Together, with our sister projects B-WaterSmart (GA 869171), Water Mining (GA 869474), REwaise (GA 869496) and Wider uptake (GA 869283) and with the further progressed or even completed projects such as NextGen (GA 776541), Smart-Plant (GA 690323), Sea4value (GA 869703), Run4life (GA 730285), digital-water.city (GA 820954), Fiware4water (GA 821036), Routes (GA 265156), Res-urbis (GA 730349), Water2Return (GA 730398), Sludge4.0 (7165.24052017.11200002) and BioKS (0324029A), we discussed our solutions.

Workshop	CS	Topics of Ultimate presentations	Presentations from other projects or organisations
	CS1	Near zero liquid discharge systems in the	
		petrochemical industry	
Mombrono	CS4	Filtration and small bioreactor platform for wastewater reuse in the food industry	Awator
technologies	CS7	AnMBR and RO treatment for water recovery in the beverage industry	mining
	CS9	Novel ultra-tight ultrafiltration membrane as pre-treatment for wastewater from biotech industry for water reuse	
Adsorption	CS1	Removal of ammonia from wastewater by adsorption with zeolites	SMART-Plant
technologies	CS4	Hybrid adsorption and subcritical water extraction	VALUE
	CS5	AnMBR vs. bioelectrochemical fluidised bed reactor for biogas production from brewery wastewater	<b>inextGen</b>
technologies	CS6	Immobilised high-rate anaerobic system & biogas process stabilizing measures	14
	CS7	Biogas production in an anaerobic membrane reactor from distillery wastewater	SMART-Plant
Heat	CS2	High temperature aquifer thermal energy solution in greenhouses	<b>inextGen</b> Circular Water Solutions
recovery	CS7	Heat recovery from anaerobic membrane bioreactor effluent	BioKS
	CS8	Recovery of heat from flue gas washing water	<u> </u>
	CS3	Early warning system for high chlorine	📕 👝 Digital
		concentrations and matchmaking platform to	Water .City
Digitalisation		produce fit-for-purpose water	CIUDDO
	CS5	Early warning system for membrane fouling	4 WATER
	CS9	Joint control system for two WWIPs	

 Table 2
 Overview about the discussed Ultimate concepts





Nutrient recovery	CS2 CS5 CS7	Recovery of nutrients from greenhouse wastewater via electrodialysis Recovery of nutrients from brewery digestates Recovery of ammonia from distillery wastewater after an AnMBR treatment	SMART-Plant
Material reuse and recovery	CS3 CS4 CS6	Use of by-products of local industries for wastewater treatment Recovery of antioxidants and polyphenols from fruit processing water and olive mill wastewater	SMART-Plant Water2
Secret of successful WSIS	CS1 CS3 CS9	Success of the Tarragona Symbiosis and strategy of the Water-Smart Industry Vision Leadership The ARETUSA symbiosis for local and regional water-smart sustainability Kalundborg Symbiosis and the secret behind a resilient partnership	sludge 4.0





#### 2.1. Water recovery: membrane technologies

Around 30 persons participated in the workshop "Membrane technologies" on November, 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 and the case studies Tarragona (CS1), Nafplio (CS4), Tain (CS7) and Kalundborg (CS9) presented their concepts. The project Water Mining shared its outcome with us.

After the key lessons from the discussion, the main take-home-messages of the presenters are summarised. The full presentations are shown in Annex 1.

#### Key lessons from the discussion:

1) Membrane processes are well-known, and current research is focused on the development of new membrane materials, properties and configurations. Furthermore, new applications are under research (i.e. biological process using membranes).

2) Membrane technologies can be combined and implemented sequentially. These membrane processes trains allow to obtain higher water recovery rates and better water qualities, promoting water reuse and fostering circular economy. Furthermore, wastes streams, normally brines, are minimised.

3) The small bioreactor platform can be implemented in existing biological treatment units to cope with shock loads to increase their treatment capacity. It is a small-scale standalone solution with low costs.

4) Operational costs might be reduced for the production of fit-for-purpose water from biotech industrial wastewater through a novel ultra-tight ultrafiltration membrane as pre-treatment upstream to a reverse osmosis membrane via reducing the demand for cleaning in place treatments as well as reducing the demand for coagulants.

### 2.1.1.Near zero liquid discharge systems in the petrochemical industry in CS1 Tarragona

Sandra Casas from Eurecat presented the CS1 Tarragona concept. In the petrochemical complex of Tarragona (Spain), more than 30 companies depend on water transfers from the Ebro River to meet their consumption needs. However, increasing demand outpaced the system capacity and a water reclamation plant to feed industrial uses was put in operation in 2012. The plant reclaims municipal WWTP effluent using coagulation/flocculation, filtration, reverse osmosis, as its main process, and finally disinfection. The reclaimed water is used primarily for cooling towers and boilers.

In order to meet future water requirements, an industrial WWTP will be commissioned in 2022 to polish the aggregated wastewater from the petrochemical complex and to produce reclaimed water for the complex.





Water reclamation for industrial reuse from this new industrial WWTP (tertiary treatment) with near ZLD systems will be studied in the project at bench and pilot scale, treating the outlet of the industrial WWTP. Technologies train proposed to optimize reclaimed water production and minimize wastes through brine treatment is flow-reversal RO coupled to membrane distillation. This tertiary treatment is expected to increase water availability for industrial reuse in the complex.

### 2.1.2.Wastewater reuse in the food industry in CS4 Nafplio: filtration and small bioreactor platform

Dimitri lossifidis from Greener than Greener presented the CS4 Nafplio concept. The activities in ULTIMATE target the recovery of various inorganic and organic contaminants from the processing water and the reuse of the purified water. In Alberta's fruit processing plant, a mobile pilot plant will demonstrate a hybrid adsorption and supercritical water extraction process to extract high added-value compounds such as antioxidants from the wastewater.

Residual wastewater will be treated in pilot-scale by an advanced oxidation process (AOP) before polishing it on-site using a small bioreactor platform (SBP). The SBP is a patented technology by BioCastel (Israel), where bacteria are encapsulated within a porous membrane of cellulose acetate. The membrane keeps the bacteria safe from other microorganisms and prevents the biomass from escaping to the environment. Dissolved pollutants in water migrate to the porous and they are metabolised by bacteria. After two months approx., the cellulose acetate membrane has been decomposed to sugar. However, some problems have been addressed, such as the control of the composition of microbial community that is needed and the amount of biomass.

This technology can be implemented to assist existing biological treatment units to cope with seasonal and unexpected shock load episodes, to increase the water treatment capacity with minimal capital expenditures (CAPEX). Hence, it is a small-scale standalone solution without the need of high costs and extensive infrastructure.

### 2.1.3.Water recovery in the beverage industry in CS7 Tain: AnMBR and RO

Marc Pidou from Cranfield University presented the concept of CS7 in Tain. The symbiosis is between the Glenmorangie whiskey distillery and an SME (Aquabio) which provides circular economy enabling treatment/reuse solutions.

An anaerobic membrane bioreactor (AnMBR), with ultrafiltration (UF) membrane modules to recover biomass, is already installed at the distillery for wastewater treatment, reducing the chemical oxygen demand (COD) discharged into the Dornoch Firth by 95%. In addition, the AnMBR plant also produces biogas and provides low-cost energy to heat the distilleries, decreasing the fossil fuels consumption by 15%. The sludge produced is a copper-rich fertiliser used to enrich barley fields in the region.



Resource recovery from the AnMBR effluent will be demonstrated in pilot-scale, where ammonia will be recovered. Heat from the AnMBR effluent (35-40 °C) will be recovered and used in treatment and/or distillery processes. The reverse osmosis (RO) treatment of the AnMBR effluent will allow for water to be internally reused in cleaning processes of the distillery, reducing freshwater demand from the utility Scottish Water.

### 2.1.4. Fit-for-purpose water treatment systems in the biochemical industry in CS9 Kalendburg: Ultratight UF

Leo Vredenbregt from X-Flow presented the concept to produce fit-for-purpose water in Kalundborg. The Kalundborg Industrial Symbiosis exists already since 1972 and different CE approaches for water, energy and materials are already implemented. In Ultimate, options for water reuse will be investigated by treating the effluents from the industrial and municipal wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) in order to produce fitfor-purpose water for cooling and/or steam production. As the WWTP effluent contains a high fraction of non-degradable organic compounds from the biotech industry, it has a high potential for organic fouling. Thus, depending on the type of effluent, different treatment trains will be used. For the effluent from the municipal WWTP, two scenarios will be investigated: (scenario I) ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis and (scenario II) ozonation, sand filtration, ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis. The effluent from the industrial WWTP will be treated using coagulation, sand filtration, ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis as scenario III. In order to protect the reverse osmosis membrane against fouling and to reduce the demands for cleaning in place of the reverse osmosis membrane and for the coagulant, a novel ultra-tight ultrafiltration membrane will be tested. Thus, this idea is to reduce operational costs for the treatment via reducing the demand for cleaning in place treatments as well as reducing the demand for coagulants.

#### 2.1.5.Watermining Synergies: Pilot System for Water, Salt and Energy recovery from urban wastewater

Maria Kyriazi from NTUA presented the Larnaka (Cyprus) case study. The Larnaka WWTP has been designed for 100,000-person equivalent (PE), treating an average inlet flow rate of 18,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day. The main challenge is the high salinity of the treated water that can be disadvantageous for agricultural irrigation.

In the Water Mining project, different objectives have been proposed: to achieve a very low phosphorus concentration in the effluent, to recover phosphorus and NaCl as well as to reclaim water. To achieve these goals, different processes based on membrane technologies have been implemented in a pilot plant with a flow rate of 1 m<sup>3</sup>/h to treat the Larnaka WWTP effluent.

The effluent from the membrane bioreactor will be treated in a pilot scale "Biophree" installation, where the remaining phosphorus is adsorbed from the permeate. This technology decreases the phosphorus concentration from 0.5 mg/L to 10-40 ppb. At





these low levels, the biological growth is limited, so that also biofouling is reduced and the intermediate reservoirs are prevented from harmful algae growth.

The effluent of the Biophree unit enters in a nanofiltration process, where monovalent and divalent ions are separated. The concentrate is treated in a low temperature evaporator (LTE) unit to recover salts such as magnesium and calcium. The nanofiltration permeate enters a reverse osmosis (RO) process, where water with low conductivity is obtained. The reverse Osmosis concentrate is sent to a multi-effect distillation (MED) and NaCI solution is concentrated. Finally in the crystallizer, the MED effluent is concentrated until a saturated NaCI solution is obtained. The saturated solution will be used in the chlorination unit.

The MED evaporator will be coupled with solar panels and photovoltaics will be used for the energy supply for the other technologies in order to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of the system.





#### 2.2. Water recovery: adsorption technologies

On March, 31<sup>st</sup> 2021, the Ultimate case studies Tarragona (CS1), Nafplio (CS4) and Karmiel (CS6) discussed in the workshop "Adsorption technologies" with 45 persons their concepts. In addition, the projects Smart-Plant, Sea4Value and Water Mining presented their outcomes.

After the key lessons from the discussion, the main take-home-messages of the presenters are summarised. The full presentations are shown in Annex 3.

#### Key lessons from the discussion:

1) Adsorption process to remove ammonium from water has been proposed as a lowcost alternative in terms of energy consumption in comparison with standard reverse osmosis.

2) Adsorption technology is very versatile in terms of inorganic and organic pollutants removal from water. However, adsorbent characteristics and properties have a great impact on the pollutant's removal selectivity and efficiency.

3) Adsorption technology is proposed not only to remove pollutants from wastewater but also to recover materials from the regeneration solutions.

4) Although adsorption is a well-known technology, current research is focused on the development of new adsorbent materials, for instance, structures printed in 3D or adsorbents produced from renewable materials.

## 2.2.1.Ammonium removal from wastewater in CS1 Tarragona: adsorption on zeolites

Andrea Naves Arnaldos from Eurecat presented the concept for the Tarragona case study. The water smart industrial symbiosis interlinks the Water Reclamation Plant in Camp de Tarragona, run by AITASA, and the Tarragona petrochemical complex comprising more than 30 companies.

AITASA currently provides reclaimed water mainly, as cooling water to the different local companies. This reclaimed water has to fulfil the required quality standards, for example, that the ammonium concentration has to be lower than 0.8 mg/L to avoid corrosion processes. In the current water reclamation process, ammonium is removed via the 2-passes reverse osmosis (RO) process.

Although there are different technologies to remove ammonium from wastewater, in CS1 adsorption on zeolites will be tested as a low-cost alternative to the RO process. This technology has been tested at laboratory scale, using a commercial zeolite (based on clinoptilolite), obtaining promising results in terms of ammonium adsorption capacity.





#### 2.2.2.Adsorption - methodologies for the extraction of value-added compounds from food-processing wastewater in CS4 Nafplio and CS6 Karmiel, Shafdan

Dimitri lossifidis from Greener than Greener presented the CS4 Nafplio and CS6 Karmiel planned concepts.

In CS4 is focused on the Alberta fruit processing plant. For this case study, the recovery of various inorganic and organic contaminants from the processing water and the reuse of the purified water will be studied. In Alberta' s fruit processing plant, a mobile pilot plant will demonstrate a hybrid adsorption – supercritical water extraction (SCWE) process to extract high added-value compounds such as antioxidants from the wastewater. Residual wastewater will be treated in pilot-scale by an AOP before polishing in an on-site Small Bioreactor Platform (SBP) for reuse in irrigation or discharge into the municipal WWTP to reduce operational costs. The extracted compounds will be assessed for their use by Alberta making "fortified juice" with antioxidant properties increasing the value of their product, but also by selling the extract to the food supplement sector.

In CS6, at the Karmiel WWTP, Ultimate will demonstrate the treatment of agroindustrial wastewater prior to the common aerobic biological process using an immobilised highrate anaerobic system (Agrobics AAT) in combination with pre-extraction (coupling IEX and SFE) of valuable polyphenols from Olive Mill Wastewater.

An existing demo-scale system will be upgraded to optimise sludge production and biogas recovery, coupled with IEX and SFE to extract added-value marketable polyphenols.

## 2.2.3.Smart-Plant: Removal of key pollutants from wastewater by adsorption: N, P and COD

Ana Soares from Cranfield University presented results of nitrogen, phosphorus and COD removal from wastewater through adsorption technology. The results were obtained treating the secondary effluent from Cranfield University wastewater treatment plant. Experiments were carried out in a 10 m<sup>3</sup>/day pilot plant. Ammonium and phosphorus were removed using different adsorption media: zeolites (zeolite-N and clinoptilotite) for ammonium removal and hybrid anion exchange resins for phosphorus removal.

Ammonium removal by adsorption on zeolite-N (potassium based) has been studied for raw wastewaters and liquors at Cranfield University, obtaining breakthrough curves and ammonium adsorption capacities. Furthermore, regeneration cycles with potassium chloride solution were studied as well, obtaining very good results. The next step was to study how to recover the ammonium from the brines from regeneration step. Two different commercial alternatives were explored at laboratory scale: ammonia steam stripping and hollow fibre membrane contactor.

Regarding phosphorus removal, a commercial strong resin was studied a pilot plant scale, achieving great results in terms of phosphorus and organic matter removal





(COD). This resin was regenerated with sodium hydroxide solution, and it was reused up to times. Phosphate could be recovered adding lime and obtaining calcium phosphate as precipitate.

#### 2.2.4. SEA4VALUE: 3D-printed adsorbents for metal recovery

Eveliina Repo from Lut University of Technology (Finland) explained the 3D printed adsorbents for metal recovery, a new area under strong development.

3D printing allows to optimise the porosity and geometry of the adsorbents, where fluid channels and holes can be aligned with the fluid flow. This means a decrease of the pressure drop and less energy needed for pumping. These kinds of structures only be manufactured with a 3D-printing technology also called additive manufacturing (AM).

Adsorption is based on the interactions between the surface and species in the liquid or gas phase, limited by the number of active sites on the surface. AM offers the possibility to optimise the shape, size, and flow properties, enhancing interactions and enhancing adsorption processes.

In the Sea4Value project, adsorption/ion-exchange technologies are studied as effective and selective way to recover trace amounts of metals. Inks and printing powders will be prepared by mixing matrix materials (polymers) with selective ion-exchange resins. Printing will be conducted by Selective Laser Sintering or Direct-Ink Writing using optimised models. 3D-printed modules will be tested for selective recovery and concentration of scandium, indium, vanadium, boron, and molybdenum. Finally, adsorption/desorption cycles will be optimised.

#### 2.2.5.Water Mining: BioPhree: Reversible phosphate adsorption for P-removal to ultra-low levels and P-recovery. Demonstrations and perspectives

Wokke Wijdeveld from Wetsus (The Netherlands) explained the BioPhree technology to remove and recover phosphorus. BioPhree is an adsorption technology that can reach ultra-low phosphorus concentrations below 10 ppb. This fact is important, for example, to avoid eutrophication and to enhance water reuse from nZLD processes, avoiding biofouling.

The BioPhree technology adsorbs phosphorus from wastewater to columns that are later on regenerated. The phosphorus is recovered from the regeneration solution by precipitation or via a further nanofiltration process.

The BioPhree technology was demonstrated in eutrophicated marsh water in Canada and treated up to 32 m<sup>3</sup>/day of water with orthophosphate and particulate phosphorus concentrations of 0.177 mg/L and 0.220 mg/L, respectively. The installation consisted of an advanced filtration stage for the particulate phosphorus removal, followed by an iron oxide-based resin adsorbent system for orthophosphate adsorption. The adsorbent was regenerated and re-used and phosphorus was recovered from the regenerant solution as raw material for fertiliser application. The regeneration is a key





factor which considerably decreases operational cost of adsorbent systems. The total orthophosphate and particulate phosphorus removal was 97% and 78%, respectively.

## 2.2.6.NextGen: Renewable granular active carbon for removal of organic micropollutants in urban wastewater

Luca Loreggian from the University of Applied Science and Arts Northwestern Switzerland talked about the production of renewable granular activated carbon (GAC) and its application to remove organic micropollutants from urban wastewater.

Laboratory and pilot plant experiments were conducted to investigate the effect of pyrolysis and activation on the GAC performance. In the NextGen process, 21 different renewable GAC samples were produced, varying the operation conditions: renewable sources (cherry pit and sewage sludge), conditions of the pyrolysis and activation temperature, activation gas and residence time. All the obtained GACs samples were characterised to define physical properties (particle size distribution, density, hardness, specific surface, and porous size distribution) and performances.

Two different renewable GAC types were tested at pilot plant scale to treat wastewater and remove micropollutants.

After five months of operation, the first results indicated the successful elimination of organic micropollutants using the GAC filter (better results with sewage sludge GAC). On the other hand, standard operating conditions do not ensure sufficient elimination as demanded by the Swiss ordinance (i.e. 80% elimination). Therefore, the operating conditions of the filters will be optimised by varying the empty bed contact time and the  $O_3$  dosage.





#### 2.3. Energy recovery: biogas technologies

In the workshop "Biogas technologies" on October, 30<sup>th</sup> 2020, 26 persons participated and the case studies Lleida (CS5), Karmiel/Shafdan (CS6) and Tain (CS7) presented their concepts. In addition, we learned from the projects Smart-Plant and NextGen about their outcomes of the projects, discussed our concepts and the results of the other projects.

After the key lessons from the discussion, the main take-home-messages of the presenters are summarised. The full presentations are shown in Annex 3.

#### Key lessons from the discussion:

1) Anaerobic treatment processes in combination with biogas recovery allow for a decrease in the organic loading rate to the downstream activated sludge process and hence, for a better energy balance of a WWTP, because energy is recovered and energy can be saved in the aeration process due to the lower organic loading rate.

2) Methane recovery from an AnMBR effluent is an important step, because the methane loss can be very high without its recovery. This should also be considered for similar systems.

3) Technological flexibility is very important for research and demo cases in order to conduct trials which simulate a critical state of the investigated processes and which allow the project participants to follow new "crazy" ideas.

### 2.3.1.Biogas production in CS5 Lleida: anaerobic membrane bioreactor versus electrostimulated anaerobic reactor

Antonio Giménez Lorang from FCC Aqualia presented the planned concept in Lleida. The water smart industrial symbiosis interlinks the Mahou San Miguel (MSM) brewery with a multinational utility Aqualia as well as the local municipal utility of Lleida and the Catalan Water Agency.

The brewery has its own wastewater treatment plant. However, up to now, there is no water reclaimed and no energy recovered. In terms of energy recovery in the form of biogas, an anaerobic membrane bioreactor (AnMBR) will be operated in parallel with an electrostimulated anaerobic reactor. Both shall be compared in terms of their performance, specific energy demand, methane yield, process stability and nutrient removal capacity. The expectations are, that the AnMBR provides a higher water quality of the effluent of the reactor than the ELASR. However, the process stability and the specific energy demand of the ELSAR are expected to be better and lower compared to the AnMBR, respectively. The difference between the methane yields and





the heat values of the biogas streams resulting from both systems is uncertain until now. Those will be investigated in this case study.

### 2.3.2.Biogas production in CS6 Shafdan & Karmiel: Immobilised high rate anaerobic system & biogas process stabilising measures

Isam Sabbah from The Galilee Society presented the concepts for Shafdan and Karmiel. The symbioses in Karmiel and Shafdan interconnect two SMEs from the agro-food sector with a public wastewater utility. The agro-industrial sector includes agriculture, food industry, olive oil mills and water treatment.

The agro-industrial sector causes high organic load peaks depending on the season. In Karmiel, Ultimate wants to reduce those peaks by mixing olive mill and slaughterhouse wastewater with municipal wastewater and pretreat it using an immobilised high rate anaerobic system (AAT). In Shafdan, the wastewater composition is slightly different. Wineries, dairies and olive mills discharge their wastewater to the WWTP in Shafdan, where it is jointly treated with municipal wastewater. To reduce high organic load peaks, those wastewater streams will also be mixed in a buffer tank and pretreated in an AAT. In addition to the ATT, a novel AnMBR is implemented downstream of the AAT. Here, the use of immobilised biomass in powdered activated carbon fixed foam instead of granular biomass offers a promising approach for fouling reduction which is unexplored yet within AnMBR technologies.

### 2.3.3.Biogas production in CS7 Tain: Biogas production in an anaerobic membrane bioreactor (AnMBR) from distillery effluent

Marc Pidou from Cranfield University presented the concept for Tain. Here, the symbiosis first interlinks the Glenmorangie whisky distillery and the SME Aquabio which provides circular economy (CE) enabling treatment and reuse solutions. In 2017, an anaerobic membrane bioreactor (AnMBR) was installed to treat the wastewater generated in the distillery during the whisky making processes and allows to discharge the treated effluent in the local estuary, the Dornoch Firth. As part of Ultimate, Aquabio and Cranfield University (partners in the project) will collaborate with the Glenmorangie distillery and Alpheus, the current operator of the treatment site, (both stakeholders but not beneficiaries) to evaluate options to expand the CE approach at the site. The AnMBR effluent provides opportunities for heat recovery, nutrient recovery and finally with further advanced treatment for water recycling within the distillery.

### **2.3.4.NextGen:** Anaerobic treatment of weak effluents at low temperatures

Ana Soares from Cranfield University (United Kingdom) belongs to the NextGen consortium and contributes as the scientific partner to the case study "Spernal". Since 2003, her research group focuses on anaerobic membrane bioreactors and their optimised application in wastewater treatment. The AnMBR is a hybrid unit combining





an upflow anaerobic sludge blanket (UASB) reactor with a membrane bioreactor (MBR). Soares et al. showed that the methane yield of an AnMBR at low temperatures between 7 °C and 20 °C is 1.46 times higher than that of an UASB reactor. They highly recommend using a membrane degassing unit to recover the dissolved methane from the AnMBR effluent, since more than 90% of the total methane content are dissolved.

In the frame of NextGen at the case study of Spernal, an AnMBR with a membrane degassing unit was built. In addition, an ion exchange process will be implemented to recover nitrogen and phosphorus from the effluent.

The benefits of the AnMBR are:

- no aeration energy for COD removal necessary,
- low sludge production and hence reduced downstream sludge treatment costs,
- biogas production,
- pathogen and solid free effluent that can be reused in a number of applications (e.g. farming and industrial reuse).

### **2.3.5.Smart-Plant:** Biogas recovery in primary treatment with a polyfoam biofilter (AAT)

Before Ultimate, Isam Sabbah from the Galilee Society (Israel) was part of the Smart-Plant project, in which his research group evaluated and simulated biogas recovery with a polyfoam biofilter advanced anaerobic treatment (AAT). They used the AAT as a pre-treatment of municipal wastewater in Karmiel upstream to the activated sludge process to reduce the organic loading rate to the aerated tanks and thus, to save operational costs for the aeration process. In the AAT, the microorganisms grow in a "bio-stabilised" polyurethane-based matrix. This matrix has a large surface area to enable biofilm formation. This structure protects the microorganisms against wash out and contributes to a stable process operation.

The system can be applied either after the primary clarifier or directly without a primary clarifier. The microorganisms adapt well to the corresponding conditions. A model of the AAT was set up that can be further used to design similar processes and to allow for process optimisation under varying process conditions.





#### 2.4. Energy recovery: heat recovery

On February, 26<sup>th</sup> 2021 in the workshop "Heat recovery", 36 persons participated and the case studies Nieuw-Prinsenland (CS2), Tain (CS7) and the Chemical platform of Roussillon (CS8) presented their concepts. In addition, we learned from the projects NextGen and BioKS about their outcomes of the projects, discussed our concepts and the results of the other projects.

After the key lessons from the discussion, the main take-home-messages of the presenters are summarised. The full presentations are shown in Annex 4.

#### Key lessons from the discussion:

#### Low-grade heat recovery

1) The reuse of excess heat in the ammonia air stripping process to increase the process temperature shifts the equilibrium between ammonium and ammonia to the ammonia side and thus, can contribute to save chemicals for an otherwise required increase in pH to reach the same ammonia recovery rate.

2) The reuse of excess heat to increase the temperature of the feed stream of a reverse osmosis filtration unit can lead to a higher flux, because the higher temperature decreases the dynamic viscosity of the feed stream. Thus, the energy efficiency of the filtration process can be increased. However, the higher temperatures could also lead to a higher organic fouling rate, since microbial activities increase with temperature.

 $\rightarrow$  CS7 will consider to install a flexible system in order to investigate different options

#### High temperature - aquifer thermal energy storage (HT-ATES)

3) HT-ATES: The bigger the storage is and the better the layer to the upper subsurface isolates, the higher the heat or cold recovery efficiencies are.

4) HT-ATES: A temperature shift in the ATES from 15-18 °C to 25°C-40 °C did not show a severe effect on the geohydrological environment. However, at higher temperatures heavy metals were released. As soon as the temperature decreased the heavy metals precipitated again. The temperature increase was suitable to compensate the imbalance of a higher heat demand in winter compared to the cooling demand in summer.

5) HT-ATES: Sulphur oxidising bacteria clearly indicate an oxygen ingress to a borehole after geothermal plant downtimes. Periodic heat shocks are a promising procedure to reduce biofilms and thus, to diminish corrosion processes.





### 2.4.1.CS7 Tain: Heat recovery from anaerobic membrane bioreactor effluent

The concept for heat recovery for the case study in Tain was presented by Marc Pidou from Cranfield University. In Tain, the wastewater from the Glenmorangie whisky distillery is treated in an anaerobic membrane bioreactor (AnMBR). The company Aquabio and Cranfield University want to expand the circular economy approach together with the Glenmorangie distillery and Alpheus, the current operator of the treatment site. One part of this approach is the recovery of heat from the AnMBR effluent and to reuse it at the site. Different scenarios are investigated in terms of their feasibility. One scenario involves the heat utilisation for the ammonia stripping process. The higher the temperature of the fluid is, the higher the shift of the equilibrium between ammonium and ammonia towards the ammonia side is. Thus, a higher temperature is beneficial for the stripping process. On the other hand, the heat could also be beneficial for the reverse osmosis filtration process at the end of the treatment train for the new water reuse concept. The higher the temperature of the feed water is, the lower its viscosity becomes, which increases the flux through the membrane. Hence, the feasibility of both concepts need to be assessed in order to choose the most beneficial scenario.

### 2.4.2.CS8 Chemical platform of Roussillon: Recovery of heat from flue gas washing water

Anne Reguer from Sues RR IWS Chemicals presented the concept for the heat recovery feasibility study at the chemical platform of Roussillon. On this platform, Sues RR IWS Chemicals operates two hazardous waste incinerators. Each incineration line has one furnace with quenching to cool the flue gas. The gaseous effluents from incineration are washed to eliminate gases and dust in order to comply with current discharge standards. The washing water is sent to a physical-chemical WWTP. The first unit of the physical-chemical WWTP allows the cooling of the wastewater through a set of heat exchangers to reduce the temperature from 87 °C to 30°C. Until now, the removed heat from this wastewater is entirely lost. Therefore, a feasibility study shall analyse the potential to recover this thermal energy and to produce electricity and/or vapor on-site from the hot washing water for a local use. The pH is around 5 and the water contains high salt concentrations.

### 2.4.3.CS2 Nieuw-Prinsenland: High temperature aquifer thermal energy solution in greenhouses

The concept for heat storage and reuse related to the case study in Nieuw-Prinsenland was presented by Marette Zwamborn from KWR. In Nieuw-Prinsenland is known for its agro-food industry and its greenhouses. Especially during winter periods, the demand for heat in greenhouses is high, while in summer usually excess heat occurs. To tackle this challenge in a sustainable way, a high temperature aquifer thermal energy storage (HT-ATES) is a possible solution to store the excess heat in summer





in the subsurface and to recover it in winter. Ultimate aims to develop and demonstrate a cost-effective method to identify and characterise suitable aquifers for HT-ATES. Therefore, the drilling of a geothermal well in the Westland area is combined with data logging in order to screen for potential HT-ATES aquifers. In that way, geohydrological data are gained without the need of a separate test drilling.

### 2.4.4.NextGen: Aquifer thermal energy system at the greenhouse of Koppert-Cress

Martin Bloemendal from the Technical University Delft and KWR (The Netherlands) presented the outcomes of the project NextGen. The Westland region in the Netherlands is known for its greenhouses and horticulture. A greenhouse belonging to the Koppert-Cress company, is heated in winter via the recovered heat from an aquifer thermal energy system (ATES). In summer, the excess heat is stored in the subsurface. However, the heat demand in summer is higher than the cooling demand in summer. Hence, the system is not in balance. One option to mitigate this imbalance is to add extra heat and thus, to increase its temperature. Therefore, in NextGen, the ATES was used as a pilot project to investigate the impact of a temperature increase from the original range between 15 °C and 18 °C to an increased range between 25°C and 40°C. The temperature shift did not show a severe effect on the geohydrological environment. However, at higher temperatures heavy metals were released, but as soon as the temperature decreased, the heavy metals precipitated again. Hence, an imbalanced system can be efficiently compensated with external heat.

### **2.4.5.BioKS:** How to avoid corrosion and scaling in aquifer thermal energy systems in Germany?

Hilke Würdemann from the Merseburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) presented results from the German research project BioKS. In Neubrandenburg, an ATES delivers heat in winter for district heating and in summer, excess heat from a power plant is stored. The temperature of the cold well and of the warm well are around 47 °C and 75 °C, respectively. The cold well is highly affected by microbial induced corrosion due to the activity of sulphate reducing and sulphur oxidising bacteria. The growth of sulphur oxidising bacteria (SOB) indicated oxygen ingress to the borehole during downtime phases of the geothermal plant (Westphal et al. 2016). The fast decline of the SOBs after the restart of the plant indicated the exclusive affection of the well. Corrosion experiments in a bypass system onsite, revealed periodic heat shocks as a promising procedure to reduce biofilms and thus, to diminish corrosion processes (Kleyböcker et al. 2017).

In the Molasse Basin, the risk of scaling in geothermal plants is quite high. Therefore, a scaling inhibitor was tested in situ after successful laboratory tests. The permit to apply such an inhibitor in an open geothermal system depends on its biodegradability and thus, on its environmental impacts. In situ investigations showed that fermentative





bacteria dominated the microbial community and their abundance increased after heat extraction suggesting the anaerobic biodegradation of the inhibitor (Otten et al. 2021).



#### 2.5. Nutrient recovery

During the workshop "Nutrient recovery" on December, 17<sup>th</sup> 2020, the concepts of the research activities related to the case studies Nieuw Prinsenland (CS2) and Tain (CS7) were presented to 30 participants. In addition, outcomes and lessons learned from other projects, such as Smart-Plant, NextGen and Run4Life, were discussed and debated.

After the key lessons from the discussion, the main take-home-messages of the presenters are summarised. The full presentations are shown in Annex 5.

#### Key lessons from the discussion:

1) Different innovative technologies for the recovery of nutrients have been successfully implemented and applied for wastewater, sludge and kitchen waste:

- advanced biodrying and composting,
- bioelectrochemical systems and
- ultra-low flush toilet coupled with (hyper-)thermophilic anaerobic digestion.

2) Within ULTIMATE different technologies are under investigation to recover nutrients from greenhouses and distillery wastewater.

3) Nutrient recovery is possible in different forms: struvite, ammonium sulphate, phosphorus as CaPO<sub>4</sub> compounds, biofertilisers, phosphoric acid and solid NPK fertilizer.

4) Main barriers identified for nutrient recovery are related with regulations, social acceptance of the products and market competition.

### **2.5.1.Nutrient recovery in CS2:** KWR expertise in Nutrient recovery and conceptual presentation of Nutrient recovery in CS2

The presentation by KWR team was divided in two parts. First Tavishi Guleria presented the ULTIMATE case study 2, Nieuw Prinsenland in the Netherlands. The CS aims at making the cultivation practices in greenhouses more sustainable through the treatment of the produced wastewater. The specific goals are to reuse the wastewater and to recover nutrients, which are currently discharged to the sewer system. In particular, the effects of nutrient composition in the reused water on plant growth and health (e.g. Na/K ratio) will be investigated in a demo-greenhouse with the aim to reach the optimum nutrient balance and prevent the accumulation of specific minerals (B, Cu, etc.). Finally, an economic analysis of potential cost savings by using



recovered nutrients will be performed. In the second part of the presentation, Nienke Koeman-Stein presented some successful examples of nutrient recovery projects of KWR. These projects, carried out in cooperation with Aqua Minerals, succeeded in reusing calcite obtained from the drinking water production. Particularly, calcite was proposed as a key ingredient in face scrubs. Other reused materials were ferric (hydr)oxide pellets for the removal of sulphur from (bio)gas, phosphorus from (surface) water and arsenic from (ground)water. Moreover, in the CoRe (Concentration, Recovery & Reuse) process, a liquid fertiliser was recovered from wastewater after anaerobic digestion of the concentrated residue from a combination of forward osmosis and reverse osmosis treatment.

### **2.5.2. Nutrient recovery in CS7 Tain:** Recovery of ammonia from distillery wastewater by IEX/packed columns after AnMBR

Mark Pidou from Cranfield University presented the nutrient recovery concept in Tain. Particularly, in the current situation the wastewater produced by the Glenmorangie whisky distillery is treated via AnMBR, which produces an effluent with very high ammonium and phosphate concentrations. The investigation of different nutrient recovery technologies will be done in order to identify the most cost-effective option that will be integrated in the demonstration system to be tested at the distillery.

Three alternatives are currently being analysed:

- Stripping columns: established technology, but very energy intensive and with a large footprint
- Precipitation as a pretreatment for the ammonia stripping unit: through pH adjustment and addition of magnesium, struvite can be precipitated.
- Ion exchange: the technology is characterised by a small CO2 footprint, but tests are needed to understand if the adsorption capacity is sufficient at high concentrations.

Laboratory experiments will be performed to investigate the impact of the ammonium concentration on the efficiency of the proposed recovery technologies. The aim is to identify the best technology and its optimal operational conditions to maximize ammonia recovery from distillery wastewater.

### 2.5.3. Smart-Plant: bio-based fertilizer recovery from wastewater and sewage sludge

Sergio Ponsá is the leader of the BETA Technology Centre. His research group is involved in different projects where nutrient recovery is investigated. Within the Smart-Plant project, nutrients were recovered in different forms (struvite, ammonia and phosphorus as CaPO<sub>4</sub> compounds, tailor-made biofertilisers), BETA developed an advanced biodrying and composting process to recover both energy and nutrients contained in sludge. The quality of bio-based fertilisers was analysed through agronomic tests in terms of their emerging pollutant contents and heavy metals concentrations. Barriers and opportunities for the recovered materials were discussed:





- Barriers: regulatory difficulties related to the exclusion of sewage sludge as input material for the production of fertilisers according to the European regulation as well as in regard to the market competition.
- Opportunities: decentralised production (near of the end-users), WWTP turning into biorefineries, job opportunities for the production of tailor-made fertilisers (reducing heterogeneity, improving delivery, etc.)

Finally, the comparison of the SMART-Plant biofertilisers to traditional fertilizing products revealed a higher content of nutrients, a lower energy demand for their production and a higher costs.

### **2.5.4.Nextgen:** Full-scale nutrient recovery via struvite and ammonium sulfate production at a municipal wastewater treatment plant

Jonas Schneider from Abwasserverband Braunschweig (Germany), partner of the NextGen project, talked about their new full-scale nutrient recovery plant. Within the project, nutrient recovery is achieved at the WWTP in Braunschweig that includes units for struvite precipitation and ammonium sulphate production. In the case of struvite precipitation, the first results showed a very low recovery rate with small crystal size. The main challenges relate to the long time necessary for increasing particle size and the need for a very low concentration of TSS in the process. On the other hand, the ammonium sulphate unit allowed to reach ammonia recovery rates even higher than required. As a follow up of these observations, for struvite precipitation an improvement of the process aiming at increasing grain size and reaching high phosphorus recovery rates will be evaluated by changing the hydrocyclone geometry, using different MgCl<sub>2</sub> dosages and varying the hydraulic retention time in the precipitation reactor. On the other hand, for the ammonium sulphate production variations in temperature and NaOH addition will be tested to maintain a high ammonia recovery rate, while reducing the energy and/or NaOH consumption.

#### **2.5.5.Run4Life:** current results and exploitation pathways

Nicolás Morales Pereira from Aqualia (Spain) is the Run4Life project manager and gave a presentation about current results and exploitation pathways of the project. The main concept of Run4Life is the source-separated sanitation and resource recovery from wastewater and kitchen waste. The concept is applied at four demo sites. Different technologies such as an upflow anaerobic sludge blanket (UASB) reactor, an AnMBR and a (hyper-)thermophilic anaerobic digestion (HTAD) reactor are applied to treat kitchen waste and/or black water recovering nutrients in the form of struvite (a phosphate fertiliser), phosphoric acid (a phosphate fertiliser) ammonium sulphate (a nitrogen fertiliser) and solid NPK fertiliser. Social aspects and involvement of citizens and farmers was a crucial aspect to evaluate the acceptance of the fertilizers. In Lemmerweg case study an ultra-low flush toilet was developed obtaining highly concentrated backwater to be treated via HTAD. Using this technology, it is possible to obtain biogas production, hygienisation and two main fertiliser streams. Finally, at







the Porto do Molle demo site, up to 61% of initial N have been recovered with bioelectrochemical systems.





#### 2.6. Material recovery and reuse

During the workshop "Material recovery and reuse" on June, 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021, the concepts of the research activities related to the case studies in Israel (CS6), Greece (CS4) and Italy (CS3) were presented to around 20 participants. In addition, outcomes and lessons learned from previous projects, including Smart-Plant, Routes, Res-Urbis, Water2REturn and Sludge4.0 were discussed and debated.

After the key lessons from the discussion, the main take-home-messages of the presenters are summarised. The full presentations are shown in Annex 6.

#### Key lessons from the discussion:

1) Recovery of value-added compounds can bring multiple advantages: removing of components which are harmful for a specific treatment, obtaining marketable products, allowing for the reuse of a residual/out of specification material.

2) Recovery of value-added compounds usually require the implementation of different treatment steps to be implemented in existing plants.

3) Both laboratory and pilot tests are a key step for the implementation of a valueadded compound recovery process.

4) The quality of the final product is fundamental for the market accessibility; specific treatment steps are usually necessary to reach an adequate quality.

5) Legislation is fundamental for the recognition of a recovered material as product if it is generated by a waste (end-of-waste).

### **2.6.1.Material recovery in CS4 & CS6:** Recovery of antioxidants and polyphenols from fruit processing and olive mill wastewater

Dimitris lossifidis from GTG is involved in the research activities related to CS6 and CS4, leading the research tasks on material recovery. In CS4, located in Nafplio, the objective is to treat wastewater produced by the fruit processing industry to isolate useful/value-added compounds such as polyphenols, flavonoids and anthocynins. The treatment system is composed of coagulation/sedimentation steps to precipitate suspended solids, an extraction process to recover value added compounds, advanced oxidation and a biological treatment. Value added compounds are selectively adsorbed on a solid phase such as resins followed by an extraction with suitable solvents. Subcritical water extraction will be applied as a non-hazardous method with high efficiency and low costs. Polyphenols will be recovered, which are


found in fruit and vegetables with significant biological activity and/or health promoting properties and that have a high market value. Static and dynamic adsorption experiments have been carried out to determine the optimal condition for polyphenols adsorption, resulting in a 60-95% removal. In terms of recovery, the best results were achieved using MeOH-H2O as solvent. In CS6, located in Israel, the objective is the recovery of polyphenols from olive oil mill wastewater. In this case the removal of polyphenolic compounds is also necessary to avoid the inhibition of anaerobic digestion that may lead to a reduction in biogas yield. Polyphenols from olives and grapes have a market value ranging from 1620  $\notin$ /g to 7240  $\notin$ /g. A similar treatment system to that employed in CS4 will be also utilised in CS6: polyphenols in olive mill wastewater will be adsorbed on resins using hot water and methanol as solvent.

## **2.6.2.Material recovery in CS3:** Use of by-products of local industries for wastewater treatment in Rosignano

Francesco Fatone from UNIVPM and Francesco Rossi from CPTM presented CS3 in Italy. The case study concerns the Aretusa WWTP which is a tertiary plant aiming at refining the quality of the effluent water from the municipal WWTP of Cecina and Rosignano to make it usable for the cooling towers of Solvay industry. To allow industrial reuse, specific quality limits must be met, which is challenging in terms of salinity and chemical oxygen demand (COD). Therefore, the reuse of by-products from the industrial area, will be tested to increase the quality of the final water. In particular:

- The possibility to reuse chemical (i.e., alum/ferric) sludge from coagulation/flocculation in the WWRP will be analysed and potential users will be identified via the Alu Circles Initiative.
- A pilot scale adsorption system will be tested with alternative sludge-biowasteoriginated GAC. The monitoring system will include sensors for the measurement of conductivity, pH and UV and fluorescence, which are surrogate parameters for the determination of the COD.
- Mineral by-products will be used as alternative coagulants and/or adsorbents.

Several industrial by-products have been tested in the laboratory. Adsorption tests showed that organoclay has a much lower adsorption capacity compared to an activated hydrochar for the removal of organic matter and target micro-contaminants (i.e. diclofenac). Softening tests with granulated limestone and "Soda Solvay" showed a very good hardness removal in the tested wastewater with reductions ranging between 46% and 87%.

## **2.6.3.SLUDGE 4.0:** Thermochemical treatment and down-stream strategies for materials recovery from sewage sludge

Riccardo Gori from UNIFI (Italy), a partner of the Sludge4.0 consortium, talked about material recovery from sewage sludge. The project investigated the benefits obtainable from the products of hydrothermal carbonisation (HTC) of sludge, namely hydrochar





and process water, with a focus on the optimisation of the process cycle, and on the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the technology.

HTC is a non-oxidative thermochemical treatment conducted at medium-high temperatures (180-250 °C) and developed to process organic materials. In the project SLUDGE 4.0, HTC has been applied to primary, secondary and digested sludge allowing for the production and recovery of hydrochar and process water rich in nutrients that can be used for fertigation.

The produced hydrochar is a carbonaceous solid classifiable as lignite, which can be reused as a fuel product, soil improver or adsorbent after an activation procedure. The process water is the result of the mechanical separation that is carried out downstream of the HTC reaction. In this liquid fraction, numerous inorganic and organic compounds of great interest for agriculture. They are dissolved and can be recovered through water treatment and concentration technologies.

# 2.6.4.Smart-Plant: Cellulose recovery from municipal wastewater and safe reuse

Marit van Veen, from CirTec (The Netherlands), presented the cellulose recovery from sewage and the work performed as partner in the H2020 Smart-Plant project. Dynamic rotating belts with fine screen have been used as pre-treatment in wastewater treatment plants, obtaining cellulosic material as recovered product. The process has different advantages for the wastewater treatment plant, including the reduction of energy requirement (15-20%), lower production of sludge (20%), lower use of chemicals (20%) and reduction of maintenance cost. However, the recovered products are not saleable, because they contain too many pollutants and impurities. The "Cellvation plant" was developed as a treatment unit including the following steps: grit removal, cellulose washer, rotating belt fine screen, screw press, thermal dryer, and finally hammer mill or pelletiser (https://www.cell-vation.com/cellvation-process). The material produced, called Recell, can be obtained in the form of cellulose fluff or as pellet. Recell-based products as asphalt additives, biocomposite, insulation boards and building blocks have been produced and already been applied in real environments.

#### **2.6.5.Water2REturn:** Microalgal biomass recovery and reuse

Robert Reinhardt from AlgEn (Slovenia) talked about resource recovery with algae in the frame of the Water2REturn project. The project aims to solve slaughterhouse wastewater management problems by recovering and recycling nutrients turned into value added products for the agro-chemical industry. In this process, wastewater from the slaughterhouse is treated in a sequencing batch reactor (SBR). Then, a filtration process including microfiltration, ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis allows the recovery of a concentrate rich in nitrate and phosphate and useful to produce an organic fertiliser. The sludge resulting from the wastewater treatment process is firstly sanitised and then, enters a bioreactor where it is fermented with *Bacillus sp.*. From the





hydrolysed sludge, a biostimulant is produced. In the energy line, the hydrolysed sludge is treated through anaerobic digestion to produce biogas and subsequently methane and CO<sub>2</sub>. The latter is captured in the final algae line, where the AlgaBioGas technology is used to recover an algal biomass, which is used to produce a second biostimulant. Preliminary sprouting tests and pot tests have already been performed and agricultural field tests are ongoing. Up to now, results showed that biostimulants seem to be effective.

## **2.6.6.Routes, Smart-Plant, Res-Urbis:** Polyhydroxyalkanoate recovery from sewage sludge and foodwaste

Mauro Majone from the Sapienza University of Rome (Italy) spoke about his experience in polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHA) recovery in the framework of three EU projects: the project Routes and the two H2020 projects Smart-Plant and Res-Urbis. PHA is a family of copolymers constituents of several bioplastics, with a wide portfolio of applications. PHA are produced from renewable feedstock through biological processes and are easily and "truly" biodegradable. In addition, they have a high market potential. Treatment steps to recover PHA from urban bio-wastes are largely validated at lab-scale, but a pilot scale experimentation is essential to supply technicaleconomic data and to identify the best management procedures for optimising the process. In Routes, PHA were recovered from municipal wastewater through a pilot system that included the processes of fermentation, biomass production, polymer production and polymer recovery. In Smart-Plant, PHA were recovered from sewage sludge through the SHEPPAR unit in SMARTech 5 (https://www.smartplant.eu/index.php/technical-factsheets). The recovery process includes fermentation, aerobic/anoxi feast/famine SBRs, a nitritation SBR and a batch reactor for PHA accumulation. A recovery rate of 0.7-0.8 kg PHA/d was achieved through the pilot plant, with a recovery projection of 1-1.2 kg PHA per population equivalent for a fullscale process. In Res Urbis, PHA were recovered from urban organic waste through acidogenic fermentation, solid/liquid separation, an aerobic SBR for biomass production and an aerobic batch reactor for polymer production. Finally, through an extraction/purification process, bioplastics were recovered from the polymer-rich biomass. The PHA content of contaminants is generally low. Preliminary results showed that waste based PHAs slightly exceed the limits for heavy metals set by the EU Regulation (EU 2011/10) on recovered plastic materials that can be in contact with food. On the other hand, the PHA samples complied with the EU limits for the safety of toys and plastic materials that can be in contact with refrigerated or frozen food.





### 2.7. Digitalisation

In the workshop "Digitalisation" on May, 20<sup>th</sup> 2021, 56 persons participated and the case studies Rosignano (CS3), Lleida (CS5) and Kalundborg (CS9) presented their concepts. In addition, we learned from the projects Digital Water City and Fiware4Water about their outcomes of the projects, discussed our concepts and the results of the other projects.

After the key lessons from the discussion, the main take-home-messages of the presenters are summarised. The full presentations are shown in Annex 7.

#### Key lessons from the discussion:

1) A model can be only as good as the quality of its used data is. Thus, reliable sensors and regular maintenance of those are mandatory. Hence, data validation and reconciliation as well as its quality control are crucial.

2) Developments of digital solutions based on Fiware architecture allow for a better compatibility and open access.

## **2.7.1.CS3 Rosignano:** Development of an early warning system for saltwater intrusion in the sewer system

Cecilia Bruni from the Marche Polytechnic University and Simone Neri from West presented the setup and first results related to an early warning system for saltwater intrusion in the sewer system. In Rosignano, the Aretusa consortium produces fit-for-purpose water from the secondary effluents of two municipal wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs). The sewer systems leading to both WWTPs are affected by currently unpredictable seawater intrusions which increase the chloride concentrations of the wastewater to unacceptable levels.

A real-time data driven monitoring and process control system for seawater intrusion and infiltration in the subcatchment and sewers sub-system is setup to avoid salinity peaks in the influent to the wastewater reclamation plant (WWRP). Therefore, flow splitting and equalisation of the secondary WWTP effluents is tested and a modelbased approach with hydrometeorological forecasts combined with hydrogeological data will be used to predict saltwater intrusions and impacts from sea spray. To allow for water reuse during periods of very high salinity, the potential for others water uses outside of Solvay will be screened regarding the highest admissible chloride content. These potential uses will be integrated in a data-driven matchmaking platform for water reuse.





# **2.7.2.CS5 Lleida:** Development and implementation of an early warning system for membrane fouling

Concept to implement an early warning system for membrane fouling was presented by Antonio Giménez Lorang from FCC Aqualia. In order to close the water loop at the case study in Lleida, the wastewater from the brewery will be treated anaerobic membrane bioreactor (AnMBR). The AnMBR effluent will be post-treated via ultrafiltration, reverse osmosis, advanced oxidation processes and UV disinfection in order to reuse the treated water for cooling towers.

For the optimisation of the AnMBR operation, a new method for online monitoring of membrane fouling will be tested. It will be implemented in the programmable logic controller (PLC) and allow for the maximisation of the reactor performance and the minimisation of chemical consumption for cleaning purposes.

## **2.7.3.CS9 Kalundborg:** Development of a joint control system for an industrial and a municipal wastewater treatment plant

Anne Kleyböcker from Competence Center for Water Berlin (KWB) and Line Rodenkam Melchiorsen from Kalundborg Utility (KCR) presented the concept for the case study in Kalundborg. Here, an industrial wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) pre-treats the wastewater from the biotech and pharma industry. The effluent from the industrial plant is then together with the municipal wastewater treated in the municipal WWTP. Ultimate focuses on the optimisation of both WWTPs aiming to develop and implement a joint control system for both plants. Through digitalization, the joint operation of the two WWTPs shall increase the energy efficiency of their treatment processes as well as their environmental efficiency. As a first step, a digital twin is currently developed in order to test the joint control system prior to its real implementation.

# **2.7.4.Digital-water.city:** Early warning system for bathing water quality and water reuse

The project digital-water.city was presented by Nicolas Caradot from the Competence Center for Water Berlin (Germany). The project aims to develop and demonstrate 15 advanced digital solutions to address water-related challenges in five cities Copenhagen, Berlin, Paris, Milan and Sofia. In Paris, an early warning system is used to forecast bathing water quality and to improve the bathing water management in the river Seine for 2024. It is based on real-time measurements of bacterial contamination and composed of a statistical and deterministic model of the rivers in Paris. In Milan, an early warning system is developed to prevent microbial and toxic contamination in order to provide water for safe reuse in agriculture.

#### **2.7.5. Fiware4Water:** Intelligent control for a wastewater treatment plant

Alex van der Helm from Waternet and Siddharth Seshan from KWR and TU Delft (The Netherlands) presented results from the project Fiware4Water. At four case studies in Athens, Cannes, Great Torrington and Amsterdam, smart solutions are developed and





applied for the water sector. For the WWTP Amsterdam West, an intelligent control system has been created. It is based on online measurements of nitrous oxide emissions in the off-gas of the aeration tanks with the objective to reduce those emissions and to reduce the energy consumption of the aeration process via a datadriven artificial intelligence (AI) control. Therefore, an AI digital twin was developed to predict the aeration process behaviour. The digital twin, together with an AI influent prediction, are used to train the control model by reinforcement learning. Because a model is only as good as the quality of its used data, a high emphasis was put on the automatic real-time validation and reconciliation of data and its quality control. As a result, an AI-based data validation application was developed to screen key operational parameters and perform data reconciliation. Furthermore, Fiware was integrated in the legacy system of the WWTP, where real-time Fiware4Water smart applications are run.





### 2.8. Secret of successful symbioses

On March, 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022, the workshop "Secret of successful symbioses" was conducted in cooperation with the "stakeholder engagement" work package 3. Around 50 persons participated and the case studies Tarragona (CS1), Rosignano (CS3) and Kalundborg (CS9) presented their symbioses and the reasons for their resilience and success. In addition, we learned from the multi-utility company IRES and from the project AquaSPICE about their strategies to foster successful industrial symbioses.

After the key lessons from the discussion, the main take-home-messages of the presenters are summarised. The full presentations are shown in Annex 8.

#### Key lessons from the discussion:

The most important factors to create and maintain a successful symbiosis were identified to be:

#### 1) Commitment and willingness to act together in order to "make it happen"

To create the willingness among the stakeholders, the key factors are

- the common need to reach a goal such as the reduction of the water footprint,
- success stories and sharing this and

- a charismatic person that serves an initiator. Creating a feeling of success motivates people to be part of this movement. The initiator can be neutral, but also needs to understand the conditions and to know the key persons which are crucial to "make it happen".

#### 2) Communication and engagement with partners and stakeholders

An open communication is crucial to build trust among the partners and stakeholders. In addition, an evidence and data driven communication successfully convinced people and contributed significantly to gain their trust. Thus, sharing of and access to data, information and experiences is highly recommended in order to establish and maintain a resilient symbiosis.

# **2.8.1.CS1:** Success of the Tarragona Symbiosis and strategy of the Water-Smart Industry Vision Leadership

Miquel Rovira Boixaderas from Eurecat explained the strategy and success of the Tarragona Symbiosis. Tarragona is close located to the UNESCO Biospere Reserve Network named Ebre River Delta. Tarragona receives water from the Ebre River, before it is entering the Ebre Delta through a water transfer. Hence, Tarragona depends on its water resources and suffers seasonally from water stress with water





shortages. The industrial and petrochemical complex Camp de Tarragona hosts more than 100 companies. In order to cope with the water stress, the Tarragona symbiosis has implemented an advanced water reclamation plant that reclaims secondary effluent from two nearby WWTPs. The reclamation plant is operated by industrially owned water utility AITASA and provides water for cooling towers and boilers. Lessons learned from the industrial symbiosis between AITASA and the industry are

- Social awareness regarding water, climate change and the Ebre River Delta is important and increasing.
- Involvement of citizenship is crucial.
- Demonstration of the technologies is important to convince people of its suitability.
- Climate change adaptation of the industrial activities and the protection of the ecosystem are important drivers.
- The cooperation in private public partnership is a successful way.

# **2.8.2.CS3:** The ARETUSA symbiosis for local and regional water-smart sustainability

Gianluca Pettinello from Solvay and Lorenzo Bagnoni from ARETUSA presented the secret of success from the perspective of the ARETUSA symbiosis. They revealed that a common target of the industry, public authorities, universities and local stakeholders us a significant factor for the success. In the case of ARETUSA, the common need occurred to recycle and reuse water for the industry due to water scarcity. In order to reduce its water footprint, the ARETUSA symbiosis committed itself to foster water reuse strategies, to optimize the processes in its water reclamation plant, to enhance their solutions via digitalization, to identify potential replication possibilities of its circular economy systems and thus, to enhance the circular integrated water management in the area. Hereby, crucial factors are the open communication between the parties, the suitable scientific approach to solve the environmental challenge and the willingness of all parties to "make it happen". Hereby, important key factors are a continuous dialogue between the parties, the removal of prejudices, to listen to each other, to talk the "same language" as well as to invest adequate resources and to create competences to reach the common target.

# **2.8.3.CS9:** Kalundborg Symbiosis and the secret behind a resilient partnership

Lisbeth Randers, the head of secretariat of the famous Kalundborg Industrial Symbiosis, explained its history and strategy to maintain a resilient partnership. The cooperation among the partners in Kalundborg started already 50 years ago. Today, thirteen public and private companies profit from circular economy solutions for water, energy and materials. A life cycle assessment revealed that last year 586,000 t CO<sub>2</sub> were saved, 4 million m<sup>3</sup> of groundwater were substituted by surface water and 62,000





45

tons of residual materials were recycled. The drivers behind this resilient partnership are:

- Hard work to create trustful relations that take time to build and are achieved through continuous cooperation between the partners
- Recognition of challenges for instance to access water and consider it as a mutual challenge to be solved together
- Flexibility to adapt business models with changing times/circumstances
- Boost of innovations with the aim to implement them at full-scale
- Establishment of a social economy and awareness of social responsibility of the industrial cluster and the municipality: joint projects with social entrepreneurs
- Overview and clear priorities through data: you cannot fix everything at the same time, so you need to have a prioritized action plan

## **2.8.4.IREN:** Strategy and role of multi-utilities to deliver territorial symbioses and circular economy

Enrico Pochettino is the head of innovation from IREN, a multi-utility company in Italy. He presented the strategy to establish territorial symbioses with multi-circle economy concepts. IREN is a large multi-utility managing water, energy, waste services in regions or so called territories. Multi-utilities serve as the initiator of the sustainable transition in the territories via linking urban services and industrial needs. Establishing local committees enables dialogues with stakeholders and participatory planning of actions in order to gather project proposals from local communities, to promote solutions for improving the environmental and social impact for the territory and to improve the quality of the services provided by the IREN group. One example is the I.BLU Industrial Symbiosis in waste management that develops new circular raw materials such as blu-polymer and bluair. Blu-polymer is an additive for high performance asphalts and bluair is a secondary reducing agent to be applied in blast furnaces and electric arc furnaces as process optimizer. Other examples are the treatment of wastewater for its agricultural reuse at the WWTP in Mancasale and the heat recovery in Turin from CHP power plants and a waste-to-energy plant for district heating via the largest district heating network in Italy.

## **2.8.5.AquaSPICE:** Capitalising the experience of others to achieve a successful symbiosis

Asthanasios Angelis-Dimakis from the Huddersfield University summarized the experience from other projects to achieve successful water symbioses. AquaSPICE aims to reduce water demands, to implement and foster water recycling and to exploit alternative water sources for European process industries. It raises awareness in resources efficiency and delivers solutions for industrial applications via circular, process and digital innovations. The key success factor is based on the symbiotic cooperation between the industries and the water sector. Therefore, AquaSPICE analysed the aspects for success of industrial symbioses in different projects. Those





were: industrial awareness of the benefit of such a symbiosis as well as the acceptability of the recovered product and the demand for it. A query showed that industrial awareness exists already, but the instruments to implement such a symbiosis are missing. Product acceptability is also affected by the public knowledge and its willingness to support such schemes. Here, communication, dissemination, training and social awareness are still needed.





#### 47

## 3. Summary and conclusion

In the frame of the project Ultimate, eight workshops were conducted by the crosscutting technology group leaders for water recycling, material recovery and energy recovery as well as in cooperation with the "stakeholder engagement" work package. In these workshops, the concepts of the case studies were discussed at an early stage of the project together with experts from other Horizon2020 projects such as NextGen, Smart-Plant, Run4life, Sea4value, Digital-water.city, Fiware4water, Water2Return and Aquaspice. In addition, the partners from our sister projects B-WaterSmart, Water Mining, Rewaise and Wider Uptake had been invited to share their opinion with us and to identify possible synergies for cooperation.

In general, we learned that we should plan our Ultimate solutions with a technological flexibility in order to conduct trials which simulate a critical state of the investigated processes and which allow the project participants to follow new "crazy" ideas. In terms of the WSIS, we identified the most important success factor to be the commitment and willingness to act together in order to "make it happen". Therefore, a common goal is necessary, success stories as motivation to act together and a charismatic person serving as an initiator to spread and start ideas among the partners. Another important success factor is an open and evidence-based communication to convince people and to gain their trust. Based on this, we conclude that this is also true for a project consortium involving multiple WSISs. Hence, the continuation of our workshops, which focus mainly on the development and optimisation of our technologies, is seen as a crucial step towards the successful project execution to inform and involve all project partners even those, who are not directly involved case study specific tasks. Furthermore, the technology evidence base (Kleyböcker et al. 2021a; https://mp.uwmh.eu/teb/) will contribute to an open and evidence-based communication about the outcomes of our project and spread the successful circular economy solutions in Europe.

Our technological workshops were mainly dedicated to three topics: water reclamation, energy recovery and material recovery. The water reclamation meetings revealed interesting insights about membrane and adsorption technologies and showed, that there is still a demand for research in terms of the development of new membrane materials, the optimisation of membrane properties and their configurations. Regarding adsorption technologies, we learned that they can be more energy efficient than a standard reverse osmosis. In general, the adsorption technology is very versatile in terms of inorganic and organic pollutants removal from water. However, adsorbent characteristics and properties have a great impact on the pollutant's removal selectivity and efficiency. Therefore, the adsorption technologies can be used in two ways: to remove pollutants from wastewater and to recover materials from the regeneration solutions.





In terms of energy recovery, we discussed biogas technologies, heat recovery and the increase in energy efficiency via digitalisation. In general, a way to increase energy efficiency at a wastewater treatment plant is to avoid over-aeration and hence, to maintain a demand-driven aeration process. Therefore, digitalisation is necessary. However, a model can be only as good as the quality of its used data is. Thus, reliable sensors and regular maintenance of those are mandatory. Hence, data validation and reconciliation as well as its quality control are crucial.

We learned that biogas technologies involved in wastewater treatment can contribute to a lower  $CO_2$  footprint of a WWTP. Hereby, methane recovery from effluents of anaerobic reactors is an important treatment step to avoid high methane losses. In combination with excess low grade heat reuse, the  $CO_2$  footprint can be further decreased. A possible point of application is for example the reuse in an ammonia air stripping process to remove and recovery nitrogen from wastewater.

If excess heat is available from a nearby industry for example, high temperature aquifer thermal energy storage (HT-ATES) systems can be a good option to substitute fossil energy needed for heating purposes. Hereby, the efficiency of an HT-ATES increases with its size and better isolating properties of the upper subsurface of the storage.

In terms of nutrient recovery, different innovative technologies have been successfully implemented and applied for wastewater, sludge and kitchen waste such as advanced biodrying and composting, bioelectrochemical systems and ultra-low flush toilets coupled with (hyper-)thermophilic anaerobic digestion. Within Ultimate, different technologies are under investigation to recover nutrients from greenhouse, distillery and brewery wastewaters that refer to similar topics such electrodialysis, electrostimulated anaerobic digestion systems and struvite recovery. The main barriers for the implementation of such concepts were related to regulatory gaps, the need of increasing social acceptance and market competition.

The recovery of value-added compounds can bring multiple advantages: removing of components which are harmful for a specific treatment, obtaining marketable products, allowing for the reuse of a residual/out of specification material. Recovery of value-added compounds usually require the implementation of different treatment steps to be implemented in existing plants. Both laboratory and pilot tests are a key step for the implementation of a value-added compound recovery process. The quality of the final product is fundamental for the market accessibility; specific treatment steps are usually necessary to reach an adequate quality. The legislation is fundamental for the recognition of a recovered material as product, if it is generated by a waste (end-of-waste).

The workshops will continue throughout the project, since they revealed to deliver valuable information for the participants and identified important topics for further cooperation and discussion among the Ultimate partners and the other projects.





Hence, further workshops are planned for the following topics in cooperation with the other work packages:

- Legal risk assessments of the Ultimate solutions and policy gaps (in cooperation with WP2 and WP4)
- Lessons learned from the installation and start-up of the pilot plants (in cooperation with WP5)
- Technical risk assessments of the Ultimate solutions and potential for replication of the concepts (in cooperation with WP2 and WP5)
- Chemical risk assessment of the products as well as their reuse and marketability (in cooperation with WP2 and WP5)

The EU-added value of the workshops results in a synergetic networking between Ultimate and its sister projects B-WaterSmart (GA 869171), Water Mining (GA 869474), REwaise (GA 869496) and Wider Uptake (GA 869283). In addition, those projects learned from further progressed projects such as NextGen, Smart-Plant, Sea4value, Run4life, Digital-water.city and Fiware4water, Routes, Res-urbis, Water2Return, Sludge4.0 and BioKS. The case study leaders profit from the lessons learned and discussions about their concepts in order to set up their demo cases properly. This will contribute to the successful implementation of thoughtful Ultimate solutions and provide useful results for new approaches and best practices of the Ultimate solutions within symbioses clusters (D1.3, D1.4, and D1.5) and for the technology evidence base (TEB, D1.7). The collection and open access presentation of the technologies in this evidence base will support decision makers and investors to gain a fast overview of the opportunities and proven concepts of circular economy. Together with the Marketplace (D5.5), the TEB will severely contribute to the transition from a linear to a circular economy in Europe.

Ultimate promotes technologies that are in line with the ambitions of the European Green Deal (European Commission 2019) and its Action Plan for Circular Economy (European Commission 2020) to reduce strongly our greenhouse gas emissions, to provide clean water, to maintain healthy soil, make industry resilient and produce cleaner energy. The TEB presents technologies that can be applied in the frame of the Regulation (EU) 2020/741 on minimum requirements for water reuse, the Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 laying down rules on the making available on the market of EU fertilising products and the Directive (EU) 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources.





## 4. References

- European Commission (2019). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. The European Green Deal COM/20197640 final (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CE LEX:52019DC0640) accessed on Feb. 8th 2022.
- European Commission (2020). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. A new Circular Economy Action Plan for a cleaner and more competitive Europe COM/2020/98 (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-

content/EN/TXT/?qid=1583933814386&uri=COM:2020:98:FIN) accessed on Apr. 11th 2022.

- EU (2011/10) Commission Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 of 14 January 2011 on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food Text with EEA relevance. (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2011/10/oj/eng) accessed on Apr. 18<sup>th</sup> 2022
- EU (2018/2001) Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-

content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32018L2001&qid=1630937219623) accessed on Feb. 8th 2022

- EU (2019/1009) Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 laying down rules on the making available on the market of EU fertilising products and amending Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and (EC) No 1107/2009 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32019R1009) accessed on Feb. 8th 2022
- EU (2020/741) Regulation on minimum requirements for water reuse (https://eurlex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32020R0741&from=EN) accessed on Feb. 8th 2022
- Kleyböcker, A., Naves Arnaldos, A., Bruni, C., Fatone, F. (2021a). Technology Evidence Base Concept and Integration. D1.6 ULTIMATE project (GA 869318).
- Kleyböcker, A., Bruni, C., Naves Arnaldos, A., Casas Garriga, S., Fantone, F., van den Broeke, J., Iossifidis, D., Gimenez Lorang, A., Sabbah, I., Pidou, M., Reguer, A., Lundgaard, L., Bendix Larsen, S. (2021b). Assessment of baseline conditions for all case studies. D1.1 Ultimate project (GA 869318).
- Kleyböcker, A., Lienen, T., Kasina, M., Westphal, A., Teitz, S., Eichinger, F., Seibt, A., Wolfgramm, M., Würdemann, H. (2017). Effects of heat shocks on biofilm formation and the influence on corrosion and scaling in a geothermal plant in the North German Basin. Energy Procedia, 125, 268–272.





- Otten, C., Dassler, B., Teitz, S., Iannotta, J., Eichinger, F., Seibt, A., Kuhn, D., Würdemann, H. (2021). Interactions between the calcium scaling inhibitor NC47.1B, geothermal fluids, and microorganisms – results of in situ monitoring in the Bavarian Molasse Basin (Germany) and accompanying laboratory experiments. Adv. Geosci., 54, 217-227.
- Westphal, A., Lerm, S., Miethling-Graff, R., Seibt, A., Wolfgramm, M., Würdemann, H. (2016). Effects of plant downtime on the microbial community composition in the highly saline brine of a geothermal plant in the North German Basin. Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol. 100, 7, 3277-3290.





**Annex1-8 are attached as extra files:** 

**Annex 1: Presentations – Membrane technologies** 

**Annex 2: Presentations – Adsorption technologies** 

**Annex 3: Presentations – Biogas technologies** 

**Annex 4: Presentations – Heat recovery** 

**Annex 5: Presentations – Nutrient recovery** 

**Annex 6: Presentations – Material recovery** 

**Annex 7: Presentations – Digitalisation** 

**Annex 8: Presentations – Success secret of WSIS** 





## **Annex 1: Presentations – Membrane technologies**





#### CTG meeting:

#### Membrane technologies for water and resource recovery

When: 25 November 2020 (10-12h)

Where: Online meeting Unirse a reunión de Microsoft Teams

- 10:00 Opening and Welcome Sandra Casas (EUT)
- 10:10 Near zero liquid discharge systems in the petrochemical industry Sandra Casas (EUT)
- 10:20 Filtration and small bioreactor platform for wastewater reuse in the food industry Dimitri Iossifidis (GtG)
- 10:30 AnMBR and RO for water recovery in the beverage industry Marc Pidou, (Cranfield Univ)
- 10:40 Ultratight UF in fit-for-purpose water treatment systems in the biochemical industry. Leo Vredenbregt (X-Flow )
- 10:50 Nextgen Synergies: space technology for water reuse in a Dutch brewery. Ralph Lindeboom (Semilla)
- 11:10 Watermining Synergies: Pilot System for Water, Salt and Energy recovery from urban wastewater. Maria Kyriazi (NTUA)
- 11:20- Open discussion
- 11:30 Closure



WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# Online seminar Membrane technologies

S.Casas, A.Kleyböcker, F.Fantone, C.Bruni, R.Serena

# November, 25th 2020



# Ultimate (June 2020 – May 2024):

Industry water-utility symbiosis for a smarter water society

- Promotion, establishment and extension of Water Smart Industrial Symbioses
- Development and demonstration of innovative technologies for symbioses
- Assessment of the technologies and development of digital "support tools"
- Development of new business models towards marketability









# **Technology Groups:**



UNIVERSITÀ

KOMPETENZZENTRUM Wasser Berlin

POLITECNICA DELLE MARCHE





# Agenda

10:10 **Near zero liquid discharge systems in the petrochemical industry** Sandra Casas (EUT) 10:20 Filtration and small bioreactor platform for wastewater reuse in the food industry Dimitri lossifidis (GtG) 10:30 **AnMBR and RO for water recovery in the beverage industry** Marc Pidou, (Cranfield Univ) 10:40 Ultratight UF in fit-for-purpose water treatment systems in the biochemical industry. Leo Vredenbregt (X-Flow) 10:50 Nextgen Synergies: space technology for water reuse in a Dutch brewery. Ralph Lindeboom (Semilla) 11:10 Watermining Synergies: Pilot System for Water, Salt and Energy recovery from urban wastewater. Maria Kyriazi (NTUA) 11:20 **Open discussion** 11:30 Closure





#### WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

## Near zero liquid discharge systems in the petrochemical industry

## D.Montserrat, X.Martínez, S.Casas





# **Petrochemical Complex of Tarragona (Spain)**

Industrial area that groups several companies of the chemical and petroleum field.

it has been considered the most important of this type in Catalonia, Spain and the south of Europe.

More than 30 companies operate in the petrochemical complex focusing on production of chlorine, alkaline salts, oxygen gas, fertilizers, insecticides, fuels, plastics and synthetic essences.

AITASA was created in 1965 to supply water to the complex. In 2012, a water reclamation plant was put in

operation to supply industrial water.





# Tarragona symbiosis through AITASA

Drinking water Non-potable water Urban Reclaimed water Demineralized water

Security, optical fiber, pipes for transport of products





Petrochemical complex Tarragona

Industrial Wastewater

Kms of pipes that make up the network:

Industrial Water: 43.5 Kms. Average diameter: 500 mm Chlorinated Water: 14 Kms. Average diameter: 200 mm

Distributed industrial water flow: 10 Hm<sup>3</sup> / year

Direct jobs:17







# Camp de Tarragona WRP

Industrial water reclamation for cooling towers, boilers and deminerilized uses

6,8 hm<sup>3</sup>/year capacity for urban wastewater reclamation



Users: REPSOL, BASF, IQA, ERCROS, DOW CHEMICAL, CELANESE, BAYER, etc





# **Industrial wastewater treatment**



	BREF CWW + REFINO	
Parámetro	NEA-MTD (media anual)	
Carbono Orgánico Total (COT)	.33 mg/l	
Demanda Química de Oxígeno (DQO)	100 mg/l	
Total Sólidos en Suspensión (TSS)	25 mg/l	
Nitrógeno Total (NT)	25 mg/l *	
Nitrógeno Inorgánico Total (TN <sub>inore</sub> )	20 mg/l	
Fősforo Total (P <sub>1</sub> )	3 mg/l	
Compuestos Orgánicos Halogenados Adsorbibles (AOX)	1 mg/l	
Cromo (expresado como Cr)	25 µg/l	
Cobre (expresado como Cu)	50 µg/l	
Níquel (expresado como Ni)	50 µg/l	
Cinc (expresado como zinc)	300 µg/l	
Indice de Hidrocarburos	2,5 mg//	
plomo (expresado como Pb)	0,03 mg/l	
cadmio (expresado como Cd)	0,008 mg/l	
mercurio (expresado como Hg)	0,001 mg/l	
Benceno	0,050 mg/l	





## **WATER - Task 1.2.1**

Increasing reclaimed water availability in the petrochemical complex of Tarragona

## Partners:





## **OBJECTIVE:**

# Increase reclaimed water availability for the complex by 20%:

- → Defining a tertiary treatment with nZLD technologies from the future iWWTP
- → Increase water recovery of the current WWRP with nZLD technologies. Remove the ammonia with low-cost technologies (zeolites).





# **nZLD systems**

Optimize water production and minizimize wastes through brine treatment

Brine  $\rightarrow$  liquid solution with high salinity (TDS > 35000 mg/L)











# **nZLD** concentration

Benefits and limitations of different technologies used in ZLD systems modified (Tong and Elimelech, 2016).

Tech.	Benefits	limitations	Energy kWh <sub>e</sub> /m <sup>3</sup>	References
MVC	High salinity limit >200,000 mg/L	High capital and operational costs	20-25, 28-39 (a)	(Mickley, 2008b; Burbano and Brandhuber, 2012; McGinnis et al., 2013; Charisiadis, 2018)
RO	Energy-efficient	Limited salinity; scaling	2-6, 1.5-2.5 (b)	(Elimelech and Phillip, 2011; Al-Karaghouli and Kazmerski, 2013; Charisiadis, 2018)
MD	High salinity limit >200,000 mg/L	Low flux and recovery; limited area of application	40-45, 22-67 (b)	(Schwantes et al., 2018; Al-Obaidani et al., 2008; Charisiadis, 2018)
FO ED/EDR	High salinity limit >200,000 mg/L; requires low-grade heat; less fouling Salinity limit >100,000 mg/L; less fouling	Low flux at high salinity; reverse solute flux; limited use High energy consumption	21 (a) 7-15 (a)	(McGinnis et al., 2013; Haupt and Lerch, 2018; Oasys Water, 2017; Li et al., 2017) (Korngold et al., 2009; Loganathan et al., 2016; Turek et al., 2005; Tufe et al., 2015)

Tech; Technologies, (a) energy consumption kWhe/m3 of feed water; (b) energy consumption kWhe/m3 of product water.







# nZLD technologies proposed in CS1

#### Formeate (entrance) Fermeate (product) Fermeate (product) Fermeate (product) Fermeate (product) Feed (entrance) Feed (entrance) Feed (entrance)

#### Membrane distillation



- Inhibits and prevents mineral scaling (no anti-scaling required)
- Switches connection of feed and concentrate before supersaturated solutions can precipitate from the concentrate onto the membrane.
- Reduction of volume disposal up to 60% compared to RO.

The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

- Thermally driven process in which only vapor molecules are able to pass through a porous hydrophobic membrane. The driving force of this process is the vapor pressure differential between both sides of the membrane.
- MD can also be used in conjunction with other separation processes (UF or RO), is competitive for desalination of brackish and seawater, is an effective process for organic and heavy metal removal from aqueous solutions.



# **FR-RO**

	Contents lists availa	able at ScienceDirect	
	Desali	ination	
ELSEVIER		Desalination 308 (2013) 63-72	
		Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect	DISALINATION
Application of feed flow industrial wastewaters		Desalination	0
Di Tang <sup>a,b</sup> , Jie Song <sup>c,d</sup> , Adrian V	ELSEVIER	journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/desal	

Desalination 485 (2020) 114462

<sup>a</sup> Environmental Process Modelling Centre, Nanyang Env 639798, Singapore

<sup>b</sup> School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Nanya 6 Shanghai Environmental Protection Key Laboratory on Engineering, East China University of Science and Techn <sup>d</sup> Shanghai Institute of Pollution Control and Ecological

#### Self-adaptive feed flow reversal operation of reverse osmosis desalination

Han Gu, Alex R. Bartman, Michal Uchymiak, Panagiotis D. Christofides, Yoram Cohen \*

Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Water Technology Research Center, University of California, Los Angeles, 420 Westwood Plaza, Chemical Engineering Offices, Boelter Hall 5531, Los Angeles, CA 90095, USA











The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



Source: Chapter 4: Membrane Distillation. Thermal Solar Desalination, Elsevier Ltd. (2016)



 SGMD
 Sweep gas
 Distillate

 Membrane
 Condenser

 Figure 4.5 Sweep gas membrane distillation.

 VMD
 Vacuum

 VMD

 Figure 4.6 Vacuum membrane distillation.

Selection of MD:

- Operation modes
- Materials available for membranes





# **MD preliminary results**

Tests with syntethic brine (35 g/L – 50 mS/cm)

UHMwPE16 material is the most promising material for the application








## Next steps in CS1

				2	020								20	21										202	2				
	6	7	8	9	10	11 1	2 1	1 3	2 3	34	5	6	7	8	9	10 1	1 1	12	1	23	4	5	6	7	8	9 1	10 1	1 12	
Internal milestones:	_	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 8	8 9	9 10	0 11	12	13	14	15	16	17 18	81	19 2	20 2	1 22	23	24	25	26	27 2	28 2	29 3	0 31
Review of historical operation and quality data of the site. Definition of extra campaigns required. Analysis																													
of samples.	EUT																												
Sampling and analysis for extra analitical campaigns and collection of data for baseline	AIT																												
Set-up experimental plan and laboratory equipment	EUT																												
Definition of requirements for reuse	AIT																												
Trials of proposed technologies at bench scale. Optimitzation of the system	EUT																												
Site adaptation	AIT																												
Definition of prototype for construction	EUT																												
Prototype construction and installation	AIT																												
Operation of prototype and optimization	AIT																												
Prototype follow-up and monitoring	EUT																												
Evaluation of results and integration of water sources	EUT																												



# Conclusions

nZLD Systems will be evaluated in CS1 of ULTIMATE with a focus on:

- Increasing water availability at least 20% more than conventional Systems (conventional RO)
- Reduce fouling and scaling in membrane treatments (RO)
- Evaluate MD and FR-RO for brine concentration and optimize their operation (estimate OPEX of the system)









#### Greener than Green Technologies SA (GtG)

The team

is active in R&D and marketing of disruptive water and wastewater remediation technologies and methodologies for the circular usage of water providing valuable tools for the transition of industries and communities towards a circular economy model, taking a step closer to a circular economy. In cases where high interest and value added compounds are present in the waste, these can be reclaimed, purified and reused, minimising production cost, or can be commercially exploited, thus, turning waste into a resource.

Established in 2014, we are start-up company that sprung out of pioneering university research. Our research efforts are funded by private capital as well as EU grants and we continuously seeking synergies in both the industrial and research partners. Since 2019 we are marketing and promoting in Greece and the wider southeastern European area novel and innovative environmental technologies.

The project leading to this application has received funding form the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

#### The team

The project leading

Union's Horizon 202



Myrto Touloupi Chemist BSc MSc



Christophoros Christophoridis Chemist BSc MSc PhD

> Haris Magonis Environmental Engineer MEng MSc



Charalampos- Philip lossifidis Chemist BSc MSc MBA

lication has received funding form the European programme under grant agreement No 869318



Dimitri lossifidis Chemist BSc MSc PhD



Eri Bizani Chemist BSc MSc PhD

# **Case Study 4**





Fruit processing industry

Nafplio, Eastern Peloponese, Greece

- High water demand puts pressure in the aquifer

-Seasonality puts strain on the local biological treatment plant

 Under-performing biological treatment plant, leads to higher waste removal cost

The project leading to this application has received funding form the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318 SBP

Goals

The Unit

Value-added compound

extraction

AOP

#### **Case Study 4 Goals**

- Treat individual & final waste streams

 Isolate useful/value-added compounds compounds (properties & market price) e.g. polyphenols, flavonoids, anthocynins etc

Treat wastewater so it can be recycled:
Irrigation of nearby orchards
Reused within the plant for secondary uses or reduce the organic load sufficiently so the biological treatment plant can cope













#### **Small Bioreactor Platform**

BioCastle

Patented Technology by BioCastel, Israel

SBPs encapsulate bacteria within a porus membrane Cellulose acetate 0.2 µm pore

The membrane: keeps bacteria safe from predators and other microorganisms • prevents biomass from escaping to the environment

> Problems addressed: Controlling the type of bacteria needed Defining the space they grow Controlling the amount of biomass

The project leading to this application has received funding form the European

SBP is a product of BioCastel, Israel

Europe Patent No. EP 2421544 (Germany, France, U.K, Nederland, Ireland and Switzerland)

US Patent No. US 8,673,606

Israel Patent No. 213072

Australia Patent No. 2010240486

Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

How does it work

Benefits

Applications

ULTIMATE

#### How does it work



- A 0.2 µm cellulose acetate membrane encapsulates bacteria keeping it safe from predators and preventing biomass to escape
- Water and disolved pollutants migrate trough through the pores and are metabolised by bateria
- After the life cycle of the bacteria, approx. two month, the cellulose acetate membrane devomposes to sugars





#### **Benefits**

SBP technology addresses certain biological treatment problems:

- Control of bacteria type growth
- Control of space bacteria grow
- Control of amount of bacteria

#### It can be implemented:

- to assist existing biological treatment units to cope with seasonal and unexpected shock load episodes
- to increase capacity with minimal CapEx
- as a small scale standalone solution with out the need of high-cost & extensive infrastructure

Bioreacto.

reactor

Bioreactor : Activated

#### Applications

Sanitary wastewater treatment examples:

- A20 5500 m3/d
- MBR 2400 m3/d
- AS 500 m3/d

Yield increase up to 15% Increase in biodegradation rate Increase in bioprocess stability

Industrial wastewater treatment:

Food waste 200 m3/d
 Winery waste 0.5 m3/d
 No need for natural biomass growing and all associated infrastructure
 No need for professional manpower for plant operation
 No need for waste sludge transporting and associated infastucture

#### **SBPs application in ULTIMATE**

Investigate the synegistic effect of AOP-SBP

Goal: To create a universal treatment methodology for the food processing sector



The project leading to this application has received funding form the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318 Treat wastewater rich in compounds with antibacterial properties, e.g. polyphenols

Wastewater from:

- · Olive oli mill
- Fruit & vegetable processing and juice production

Future: Phrmaceutical wastewater treatment



WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# CS7 – Tain (Glenmorangie distillery)



Meeting: November, 25th 2020



# **Treatment systems**









# **Reverse osmosis**





**Demonstration of the application:** 

- Operational performance
- Treatment performance (fit for purpose)
- System integration



# **Previous experience – food processing**

#### Bakkavor Cucina Sano WWRP Scheme, Boston, Lincolnshire, United Kingdom











FOLENE DIE STATE

	Average AeMBR flow rate (m <sup>3</sup> /d)	500
	Average COD load (kg/d)	3566
's	Average RO permeate flow rate (m <sup>3</sup> /d)	425
3	Total water recovery for reuse	75-80%





#### **Operational performance:**

- Optimum operation (flux, pressure)
- Fouling formation and cleaning regime
- Recovery rate

Integration (sequence):

- Heat => energy use
- Nutrients => fouling vs concentration

#### **Treatment performance:**

- Organics (including trace organic compounds)
- Nutrients
- Metals and other ions
- Microbial contamination
- Concentrate management

		2020							2021												2022															202	3						2024				
Internal milestones: water recovery	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 1	.1 1	2	1	2	3 4	1 5	5	6	7	8	9 1	10 1	1 1	2 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17 1	.8 1	9 2	0 2	1 2	2 23	3 24	4 2	25 2	26 2	27 2	28 2	29 3	30 3	1 32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
Wastewater characterisation																																															
Lab to smale pilot scall trials																																															
Demo unit design																																															
Demo unit build																																															
Demo unit commisioning																																															
Demo unit peration																																															





#### WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# Thank you!



WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

#### **CS9 Kalundborg**

# Ultra-tight UF in fit-for-purpose water treatment systems in the biochemical industry

Leo Vredenbregt

PENTAIR X-FLOW

**CTG Membranes meeting: 25 November 2020** 

# Kalundborg Symbiosis since 1972:





# Kalundborg Symbiosis since 1972:







#### WATER - Task 1.2.7

Novel membrane treatment for biotech or biotech & municipal WWTP effluent for water reuse



#### **OBJECTIVE:**

#### Production of fit-for-purpose water via:

- → novel (ultra tight) ultra-filtration membrane combined with
- → pre-treatment for wastewater with high-nondegradable organic matter





# **Hollow Fiber Ultrafiltration**

- Hollow fibers: 0.8 mm internal diameter
- Filtration: inside out
- Material: polyvinylpyrrolidone / polyethersulfone
- Module: 0.22 / 1.5 m (diameter / length), 64 / 75 m<sup>2</sup>
- > 99.99% virus removal (NSF61 & NSF41)

0.22 m ØkU 07-MAR 10kU X75 200 Mm Fibre wall Fibre Module head The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's

5

Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318









### **The Filtration Spectrum**

Novel (ultra tight) UF membrane (~4 kDa)

Conventional UF (MWCO 150 kDa)





The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

Li, S. (2011). A New Concept of Ultrafiltration Fouling Control: Backwashing with Low lonic Strength Water. Delft, The Netherlands, Technische Universiteit Delft.

## **Schematic setup pilot plants**



Li, S. (2011). A New Concept of Ultrafiltration Fouling Control: Backwashing with Low lonic Strength Water. Delft, The Netherlands, Technische Universiteit Delft.



7





#### **Membrane-section**



## Pilot B from previous EU-h2020 project will be refurbished





#### Phot from EU-h2020 project AquaNES

Containerized (40 feet)

Remote controlled

Full-scale NF or UF module (40-75 m<sup>2</sup>)

Variable process settings

Simulation of one full-scale filtration stage

Feed:  $0.5 - 6 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$ 

Panorama-tour: http://showcase24.eu/pano/bwb-tiefwerder.htm





# $\diamond$

## KPI's proposed (for Task 1.2.7)

KPI proposed	Parameter to be determined
Water yield & reduction of fresh water through reuse of treated wastewater	Inlet and outlet flowrate of the system Recoveries (UF, RO)
Water quality	Removal of specific compounds. Physicochemical and microbiological parameters from inlet and outlet; emerging organic pollutant; nutrient removal (or recovery)
Other parameters	to be determined
Energy consumption	Energy used for the treatment per m <sup>3</sup> obtained Energy used per kg of pollutant removal
Reagents & materials required	Amounts of reagents used for treatment or materials (flocculant, etc.) per m <sup>3</sup> produced and kg of pollutant removed
Wastes produced	Sludge generated (kg per m <sup>3</sup> produced) and brines (m <sup>3</sup> per m <sup>3</sup> produced)



### WATER - Task 1.2.7

### Parameters to be determined in detail (to be discussed!)

- Physicochemical parameters (temperature, pH, conductivity, O<sub>2</sub>, ORP, turbidity, suspended solids/ TDS, UV absorption (254nm), colour (436nm), DOC, TOC, COD, Fe, Mn, hardness, carbonate hardness, Ca, Mg, CO<sub>2</sub>, HCO<sub>3</sub>, acid capacity, base capacity, total alkalinity, Al, Ba, Cl, K, Na, SiO<sub>2</sub>, Sr, F, B, SO<sub>4</sub> only a selection continuously!)
- Microbiological parameters (pathogenic bacteria, viruses and parasites (e.g. *E. Coli, Enterococcus,* somatic coliphages, *Clostridium perfringens* spores/spore-forming sulphate reducing bacteria)),
   Emerging organic pollutants (depending on existing pollutants)
- Nutrients (NH<sub>4</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub>, PO<sub>4</sub>, TP, BOD<sub>5</sub>)
- Performance parameter (flow, pressure, temperature, intervals backwash, chemical cleaning, CIP's)



## Planning for testing water reuse (Task 1.2.7)

				202	0			2021													2022													2023												
		6	7	8 9	9 10	) 11	12	1	2	34	- 5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 :	LO 1	1 12	2 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	Ş
Internal milestones: pilot plant		1	2	3 4	4 5	6	7	8	9 1	0 11	. 12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28 2	29 3	0 31	L 32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46 4	47	48
UFs (novel & commercial), RO designed	X-Flow																																												Τ	
UF's & RO's constructed	X-Flow																																													
Commissioning pilots	X-Flow																																													
Transport, installation & commiss. on site	X-Flow																																													
Support pilot process operation	X-Flow																																													
Discussion & support: pilot plant design	all																																													_
Preparation of periphery for plant imple- mentation (pipes, electricity, etc)	KAL																																													
Pilot plant implemented and operational	KAL																																													
Scenario I: UF&RO – pilot operation	KAL																																													
Scenario I (UF-RO) - evaluation	KWB																																													
Biofilter (BF): tendering for rental	KAL																																													_
Preparation of periphery for plant imple- mentation for scenario II	KAL																																													
Scenario II: O3/BF-UF&RO – pilot operation	KAL																																													
Scenario II (O3-BF-UF-RO) - evaluation	KWB																																													
PAC unit tendering	Novo																																													_
Preparation of periphery for plant imple- mentation for scenario III	KAL																																													
Scenario III: PAC - UF&RO – pilot operation	KAL																																													
Scenario III ([w/&w/o PAC]-UF-RO) - evaluation	KWB																																													
Comparison of Scenarios	KWB																																													



## Summerizing some high lights

The project will deliver:

- Insight in the performance of the novel ultra-tight UF membrane (with challenging WWTP effluents)
- Insight in quality of produced water
- Effectiveness of novel UF in protecting the RO is compared with conventional UF
- KPI's will be available to assess the (economic) feasibility for the water treatment steps






# Watermining Synergies: Pilot System for Water, Salt and Energy recovery from urban wastewater

25 November 2020

Maria Kyriazi, National Technical University of Athens makyriazi@gmail.com



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 869474.

## Larnaca WWTP with numbers







### Problem

Water of high salinity  $\rightarrow$  salt accumulation will cause problems to land and cultivations

# **Pilot Objectives**

- Ultra low phosphorus concentration in the effluent (<0,05 mg/L)</p>
- Recovery of phosphorus
- Recovery of NaCl
- Recovery of water



## Process flow diagram of pilot



### Process flow diagram of pilot



## **Biophree**

- The effluent from the membrane bioreactor will be treated in a pilot scale Biophree installation (capacity 1 m<sup>3</sup>/h).
- Biophree will be supported and constructed by WETSUS
- Biophree will absorb the remaining phosphorus in the permeate of membrane bioreactor.
- Phosphorus concentration will be decreased from 0,5 mg/L to 10-40 ppb.
- At these low levels of phosphorus concentration biological growth is limited.
- Reduction of biofouling and prevention of harmful algae growth in the intermediate reservoirs.



### Process flow diagram of pilot



### Nanofiltration and Low Temperature Evaporator

- Inflow: the effluent of Biophree ~1 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- Separation of Monovalent form divalent ions (Mg and Ca)
- Condensate about  $30\% \rightarrow LTE$
- LTE recovers salts of Mg and Ca (80mg/L and 150 mg/L).
- LTE works with low temperature for avoiding scaling.
- About 30% of water recovered at this stage.
- Permeate to the next treatment stage.



### Process flow diagram of pilot



9

# Reverse Osmosis Multiple Effect Distillation (MED) Evaporator

- RO inflow: the permeate of NF ~0,6-0,7 m<sup>3</sup>/h (NaCl~2%)
- Separation of monovalent ions from water ~0,42-0,49 m<sup>3</sup>/h of water with low conductivity
- Condensate about 30-40 % → MED (NaCl ~7%)
- MED evaporator will condensate NaCl solution from 7% to about 19% and produce clean water.
- Crystallizer condensate MED effluent (NaCl concentration ~19%) → saturated solution ~26% NaCl
- The saturated solution of NaCl will be used in the chlorination unit.
- Water for irrigation or industrial unit.











### **Renewable Energy**

- MED evaporator will be coupled with solar panels.
- Energy needed for the other technologies of system will be produced by photovoltaics in order to minimize environmental footprint of the project and CO<sub>2</sub> production.

### Thank you for your attention!!!





#### **Annex 2: Presentations – Adsorption technologies**





#### CTG meeting:

#### Adsorption technologies in wastewater treatment

When: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 (11-13h)

Where: Online meeting Click here to join the meeting

11:00 h **Opening and Welcome.** Sandra Casas (EURECAT).

- 11:10 h ULTIMATE: Removal of ammonia from wastewater by adsorption with zeolites (CS1). Andrea Naves (EURECAT).
- 11:25 h ULTIMATE: Adoption extraction methodologies for the extraction of value-added compounds from food-processing wastewater (CS4 y CS6). Dimitri Iossifidis (GREENER THAN GREENER).
- 11:40 h SMARTPLANT: Removal of key pollutants from wastewater by adsorption: N, P and COD. Ana Soares (CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY).
- 11:55 h **SEA4VALUE: 3D-printed adsorbents for metal recovery.** Eveliina Repo (LAHTI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY).
- 12:10 h WATERMINING: BioPhree: Reversible phosphate adsorption for P-removal to ultra-low levels and P-recovery. Demonstrations and perspectives. Wokke Wijdeveld (WETSUS).
- 12:20 h NEXTGEN: Renewable granular active carbon for removal of organic micropollutants in urban wastewater. Luca Loreggian (Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz).
- 12:30 h Open discussion and closure. Sandra Casas (EURECAT).



### Adsorption technology webinar

S.Casas, A. Naves

March, 31<sup>st</sup> 2021



# **ULTIMATE-Adsorption technology webinar**

Please mute your microphone

Use the chat for questions!

Presenters have your presentation open and ready!

Write your name and email in the chat if you want to keep posted or receive presentations of today's meeting!





### Ultimate (June 2020 – May 2024): Industry water-utility symbiosis for a smarter water society

- Promotion, establishment and extension of Water Smart Industrial Symbioses
- Development and demonstration of innovative technologies for symbioses
- Assessment of the technologies and development of digital "support tools"
- Development of new business models towards marketability

### 9 Symbioses between:

Industrial sectors

- Agro-food
- Beverage
- (Petro)chemical
- Biotech

Service providers

- Municipal utility
- Multi-industry utility
- Specialized SME
- Water services provider











11:00 h	Opening and Welcome.	Sandra Casas	(EURECAT)	)
---------	----------------------	--------------	-----------	---

- 11:10 h **ULTIMATE: Removal of ammonia from wastewater by adsorption with zeolites (CS1).** Andrea Naves (EURECAT)
- 11:25 h ULTIMATE: Adsorption extraction methodologies for the extraction of value-added compounds from food- processing wastewater (CS4 y CS6). Dimitri lossifidis (GREENER THAN GREENER)
- 11:40 h SMARTPLANT: Removal of key pollutants from wastewater by adsorption: N, P and COD. Ana Soares (CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY)
- 11:55 h **SEA4VALUE: 3D-printed adsorbents for metal recovery.** Eveliina Repo (LAHTI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY)
- 12:10 h WATERMINING: BioPhree: Reversible phosphate adsorption for P-removal to ultra-low levels and P-recovery. Demonstrations and perspectives. Wokke Wijdeveld (WETSUS)
- 12:20 h **NEXTGEN: Renewable granular active carbon for removal of organic micropollutants in urban wastewater**. Luca Loreggian (Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz)
- 12:30 h Open questions and closure. Sandra Casas (EURECAT)





Removal of ammonium from wastewater by adsorption with zeolites (CS1)

D. Montserrat, J.E. Manero (AITASA)

S. Casas, A. Naves (EURECAT)



### **CS1: Petrochemical Complex of Tarragona (Spain)**

AITASA was founded in 1965 to supply water to the Tarragona petrochemical complex.

This industrial area groups several companies of the chemical and petroleum field. it has been considered the most important of this type in Catalonia, Spain and the south of Europe.

More than 30 companies operate in the petrochemical complex focusing on production of chlorine, alkaline salts, oxygen gas, fertilizers, insecticides, fuels, plastics and synthetic essences.

In 2012, a water reclamation plant was put in operation to supply industrial water and, currently, it is runned by AITASA.



Security, optical fiber, pipes for transport of products

Petrochemical complex Tarragona



Industrial Wastewater





# $\diamond$

#### WATER - Task 1.2.1

Increasing reclaimed water availability in the petrochemical complex of Tarragona

**OBJECTIVE:** 

Increase reclaimed water availability for the complex by 20%:

- → Current WWRP:
  - → Increase water recovery of the current WWRP with nZLD technologies
  - → Remove the ammonium with low-cost technologies

#### → Future iWWTP:

→ Defining a tertiary treatment with nZLD technologies from the future







### **Ammonium removal from wastewater**

- Current implemented technology to remove ammonium from water in WRP:
  - AITASA removes ammonium from water by 2-pass RO



#### AITASA CURRENT AMMONIUM REMOVAL PROCESS (RO)



NH <sup>+4</sup> inlet (average)	22 mg/L
NH <sup>+4</sup> outlet (required value)	0.8 mg/L

- Other technologies to remove ammonium from wastewater:
  - Electrodeionization/electrodyalisis
  - Anaerobic oxidation process (biological treatment)
  - Membrane distillation (direct contact membrane distillation DCMD, vacuum membrane distillation VMD, sweeping gas membrane distillation SGMD)
  - Adsorption

Technical-economical feasibility assessment





### Ammonium removal from wastewater by adsorption with zeolites

#### AMMONIUM ADSORPTION MATERIALS

There are different materials to adsorb ammonium from wastewaters: zeolites, zeolite-like sepiolite, bentonite, bioadsorbents (*Boston ivy leaf powder*), biochar

Adsorbent material	Adsorption capacity
Bioadsorbent (Boston ivy leaf powder)	3.3-6.6 mg N/g (15-35°C)
Sepiolite	0.8-1.5 mg N/g
Biochar (from rice straw)	2.9-4.6 mg N/g (20-50°C, pH=7.5)
Clinoptilolite (natural zeolite)	8.1-15.2 mg N/g

#### **ZEOLITES CHARACTERISTICS**

 Structure: zeolites are crystalline microporous solids formed by TO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra (with T being Si, Al, Ge, B... and staying in the tetrahedral position) whose structures contain channels of diameters between 0.3-1.5 nm.



The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

- **Properties:** exceptional physicochemical properties, high functionality, **great adsorption capacity**.
- **Types:** silicate-based materials can be commonly found in volcanic areas, and there are about 45 **natural types.** However, the presence of impurities and the lack of uniformity lead to requiring their processing to avoid limiting their adsorption capacity, which in turn end up leading to the use of **synthetic zeolites**. This tendency to opt for synthetic zeolites widen the number of commercially available structures, and also stimulate the development of tailored adsorption properties by controlling the framework (Si/Al ratio) as well as the extra-framework (use of cations) and other post-synthesis modifications.

#### **APPLICATIONS**

Applications for **ammonium removal by adsorption with zeolites**:

- landfill leachates
- livestock wastewaters
- effluents from anaerobic digestion tanks
- livestock manure effluents



### Ammonium removal from water by adsorption with zeolites

#### **ZEOLITES SELECTION**

- Clinoptilolite: Ca<sub>3</sub>(Si<sub>30</sub>Al<sub>6</sub>)O<sub>72</sub>·20H<sub>2</sub>O
- Mordenite: (Na<sub>2</sub>,Ca,K<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>(Al<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>40</sub>)O<sub>96</sub>·28H<sub>2</sub>O







The Tetrahedral Framework of Clinoptiloite

Mordenite structure

Zeolite	Crystal framework Si/Al ratio	Crystal structure symmetry	Crystal density <sup>b</sup> (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Common ion- exchanged forms	Pellet density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Bulk density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Nominal pore opening (A)
Α	0.7-1.2	Cubic	1.52	Na,K,Ag, Mg,Ca	1.20	0.72	3,4,5
x	1.0-1.5	Cubic	1.47	Na,Li, Ca Ra	1.05	0.65	7.5(NaX) 10.0(CaX)
Mordenite (smail	4.5-5.0	Orthorhombic	1.83	Na,H,Ca	1.39	0.88	4
Chabazite	1630	Trigonal	1.67	No Co	1.16	0.73	4.9
Clinoptilolite	4.2-5.2	Monoclinic	1.85	K.Ca	-	-	3.5
Subcalite	very high	Unhornombic	1.79	none			2.2



### Ammonia removal by adsorption with zeolites

Experimental set-up

#### **BENCH SCALE TESTS**

- Experimental plan at bench scale:
  - Zeolite type
  - Zeolite granulometry
  - Water flow rate (hydraulic time)
  - Bed length
  - pH
  - Zeolite regeneration cycle (NaCl)
- Optimization of the operational parameters and adsorption performance (breakthrough curve)
- Design zeolite adsorption column to be implemented at pilot plant scale

The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318





#### P&ID FOR CS1 PILOT PLANT





### Ammonia removal by adsorption with zeolites

#### **PILOT PLANT SCALE TESTS**

Only one pilot plant will be built and it will include all the technologies to be tested in CS1.



#### PILOT PLANT PROCESSES SCHEME







#### TIMING

				020		2021												2022										2023										2024			٦	
		6	7	8	9 1	0 11	12	1	2 3	3 4	5	6	7 8	89	10	11	12	1	2 3	4	5	6	7	8	9 10	) 11	12	1	2	3 /	4 5	6	7	8 '	9 10	) 11	12	1	2	3	4	5
ULTIMATE CS1 Internal milestones:		1	2	3	4	56	7	8	9 10	0 11	12	13 1	4 15	5 16	17	18	19 2	20 2	1 22	23	24	25	26 2	27 2	28 29	30	31	32	33 3	34 3!	5 36	37	38	39 4	0 41	1 42	43	44	45 4	46 4	7 4	8
Review of historical operation and quality data of the site. Definition of extra campaigns																																										
required. Analysis of samples.	EUT																																									
Sampling and analysis for extra analitical campaigns and collection of data for baseline	AIT																																									
Set-up experimental plan and laboratory equipment	EUT																																									
Definition of requirements for reuse																																										
Trials of proposed technologies at bench scale. Optimitzation of the system	EUT																																									
Site adaptation																																										
Definition of prototype for construction																																										
Prototype construction and installation	AIT																																									
Operation of prototype and optimizatin	AIT																																									
Prototype follow-up and monitoring	EUT																																									
Evaluation of results and integration of water sources	EUT																																									
Trials at bench scale with real water from the AITASA WRP																																										
Trials at pilot plant scale when the pilot is installed at the industrial site												,																														

Technical-economical feasibility assessment





Ammonium adsorption by zeolites will be evaluated in CS1 of ULTIMATE with the aim of:

 Assess its technical and economic feasibility as an alternative technology to current 2 pass-RO in the current Water Reclamation Plant.





# Thank you!

Sandra Casas, Andrea Naves

Sandra.casas@eurecat.org

Andrea.naves@eurecat.org

### **Cranfield** University

Removal of key pollutants from wastewater by adsorption: N, P and COD

**Professor Ana Soares** 

www.cranfield.ac.uk



### Ion exchange processes for nutrient removal







Ammonia removal: Zeolite-N Exchange of ammonia with potassium or sodium



Phosphorus removal: hybrid anion exchange Adsorption of P to iron nanoparticles. Can be reversed by an increase in pH


### Clinoptilolite





### **Zeolite-N**







Breakthrough time is dependent on EBCT – this example is for a raw wastewater of ~30 mg/L of NH<sub>4</sub>



A. Thornton, P. Pearce, S.A. Parsons. Ammonium removal from digested sludge liquors using ion exchange. Water Res., 41 (2007), 433-439



# Process developed for sludge liquor treatment is very effective



A. Thornton, P. Pearce, S.A. Parsons. Ammonium removal from digested sludge liquors using ion exchange. Water Res., 41 (2007), 433-439



### **Process developed for tertiary treatment**



Guida S, Conzelmann L, Remy C, Vale P, Jefferson B, Soares A. 2021. Resilience and life cycle assessment of ion exchange process for ammonium removal from municipal wastewater. Science of the Total Environment. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.146834







SMART-Plant

Supported by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union





Ammonia water (25%)





### **Operation of the phosphorus removal IEX**



- Ct/C0 → 2% NaOH → 2% NaOH recovered once + 2% NaOH recovered twice

-The HAIX removed an average of 6 mg PO<sub>4</sub>-P /L to >0.3 mg PO<sub>4</sub>-P/L, within 430 bed volumes

-To manage the regenerant (NaOH 2%) efficiently, this was reused up to 8 times, reaching 785 mg  $PO_4$ -P/L

Cranfield

University

-Process was stable over 2- year operation, although some carbon fouling was observed



#### **Recovered products**

	CaOH Impurity	Result (µg/g)
MOR COL	Cadmium	<12.5
198-27	Copper	42.5
TANK	Lead	4
	Mercury	<0.125
AND THE REAL	Zinc	77.5
*)	Non-ionic surfactants	<500
	Bis(2ethylhexyl)p hthalate	<25
	Bisphenol A	<2.5
to the	Nonylphenol	<25
The state of the s	PAHs	<0.05
	Tributyltin	<0.05

#### Up to 30% COD removal



Supported by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union

Guida S, Rubertelli G, Jefferson B, Soares A. 2021. Demonstration of ion exchange technology for phosphorus removal and recovery from municipal wastewater. Submitted.



# A resource recovery strategy can have economic (and environmental) benefits





Waste water plant serving the town of Redditch (Birmingham, UK): 92.000 PE

#### **Relevant sectors**



Agriculture



**Domestic sector** 



Energy sector

Spernal WWTP serves as Severn Trent Water's "Resource Recovery and Innovation Centre" where emerging technologies compatible with a low energy, circular economy approach will be evaluated.

A multi-stream test bed facility was constructed in 2019 and this will incorporate an anaerobic membrane bioreactor (AnMBR) to be commissioned in Summer 2020. The AnMBR will also comprise a membrane degassing unit to recover dissolved methane and ion exchange processes to recover nitrogen and phosphorus from the effluent.

AnMBR combines several benefits such as:

- no aeration energy for removal of Chemical and Biological Oxygen Demand (COD/BOD)
- low sludge production and hence reduced downstream sludge treatment costs
- biogas production (production of electricity/heat
- pathogen and solids free effluent which can be re-used in a number of applications (e.g.: farming and industrial use).

### Lead partners



Resource recovery and innovation centre

### **Cranfield** Water

# **Thank You**



### 3D Printed Adsorbents for Metal Recovery

Assoc. Prof. Eveliina Repo LUT University Separation Science LENS

### Why 3D-printing?

- Porosity and geometry can be optimized
- Fluid channels and holes can be aligned with fluid flow when turbulence decreases → pressure drop decreases and less energy is needed for pumping.
- These kind of structures are possible to manufacture only with 3D-printing (additive manufacturing, AM).

Eveliina Repo



Designs by LUT Laser

8.4.2021

2

# AM in the production of adsorbents/scavengers

• Adsorption is based on the interactions between the surface and species in the liquid or gas phase



- Limited by the amount of active sites on the surface (surface area), diffusion, reaction kinetics etc.
- AM offers possibility to optimize the shape, size, and flow properties → enhancing interactions



Design by LUT Laser

Eveliina Repo



### Our premilinary experiments: Gold recovery by 3D-printed nylon adsorbents



### Our premilinary experiments: Gold recovery by 3D-printed nylon adsorbents



#### Gold concentration in the initial solution



Directly after adsorption The colored ones show adsorbed gold from the solution

After 24 hours gold nanoparticles formed on the surface change the colour reddish



5.0kV x5.00k BSE-3D 40Pa

Magnification X 10 µm

15.0KV X7.50K BSE-3D 40Pa 5. Magnification X 5 μm

Eveliina Repo

### Our premilinary experiments: 3D-printed geopolymers for organics removal

LUT University



### Sea4Value project

#### LUT task: Production of selective 3D-printed adsorbents

- Adsorption/ion-exchange is effective and selective way to recover trace amounts of metals
- Especially, selective ion-exchange resins are widely applied
- In Sea4Value project:
  - Inks and printing powders will be prepared by mixing matrix materials (polymers) with selective ion-exchange resins
  - Printing will be conducted by SLS or DIW using optimized models
  - 3D-printed modules will be tested for selective recovery and concentration of Sc, In, V, B, and Mo
  - · Adsorption/desorption cycles will be optimized





3D-printed selective

Special functionalities such as IDA, EDTA, phosphonates





Eveliina Repo





# Thank you!

Contact: eveliina.repo@lut.fi

8.4.2021

Eveliina Repo



**BioPhree:** Reversible phosphate adsorption for P-removal to ultra-low levels and P-recovery. Demonstrations and perspectives

Wokke Wijdeveld, Wetsus ULTIMATE Adsorption webinar, 31 March 2021

combining scientific excellence with commercial relevance

# Adsorption to reach <10 ppb P





Eutrophication

Zero-Liquid Discharge



# **BioPhree concept**







# Iron oxide based adsorbents



- Hybrid ion exchange resin (IEX)
- Often Ferrihydrite based
- High capacity, but unstable



- Many others exist:
  - Hematite
  - Magnetite
  - Maghemite
  - Lepidocrocite

- Porous granules
- Usually Goethite based
- Stable, but slow kinetics





### THE GEORGE BARLEY WATER PRIZE

\$10M Prize

Stage 1: Proposal Stage 2: Demonstration at lab-scale Stage 3: Demonstration at pilot-scale 'GRAND CHALLENGE': Full-scale



Lake Sikecote, o 6 a e a El torida





Demonstration for phosphorus, salts, water and energy recovery from urban wastewater

Case Study: Larnaca, Cyprus

Case Study: La Llagosta, Spain





# WWTP Larnaca, Cyprus (2021-2022)

- Process:
  - Oxidation ditch
  - FeCI dosing
  - MBR + UF
  - Tertiary disinfection (chlorination)
- Size:
  - 100,000 p.e
  - 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> wastewater /day
- Special
  - Treated water stored in lagoon
  - 100% used for irrigation of crops
  - Concerns over salinity
  - Pilot to treat 24 m<sup>3</sup>/d



Location: https://goo.gl/maps/ycUe4HZHMid5C1MK8



# WWTP La Llagosta, Spain (2022-2023)

- Process:
  - Aeration
  - Nitrification/denitrification with Banderpho (under construction)
- Size:
  - 360,000 p.e
  - 47,000 m³ wastewater /day
- Special
  - AnMBR demonstrated in Water-Mining
  - Followed by ViviCryst and BioPhree
  - Pilot will treat 10 m<sup>3</sup>/d



Location: https://goo.gl/maps/jGfwBYmtScDGXPDJA



# **Our greatest tool- Mössbauer spectroscopy**







# **Nano-particles approach**

- Pure interaction between iron oxide & P
- Effect of competing ions
- Good signal for Mössbauer study





PhD study Carlo Belloni

# **Doping of iron oxides**



# **Perspectives**

Reusing adsorbent decreases chemical cost and makes this a very feasible technology for P removal and recovery (See: Kumar,2019)

### Compare to:

- Precipitation
- Sand filtration
- Constructed wetlands



Water Research X 4 (2019) 100029

#### Review

Adsorption as a technology to achieve ultra-low concentrations of phosphate: Research gaps and economic analysis



Prashanth Suresh Kumar $^{\rm a,\,b,\,*}$ , Leon Korving $^{\rm a},$  Mark C.M. van Loosdrecht $^{\rm b},$  Geert-Jan Witkamp $^{\rm b,\,c}$ 





# Thank you for your attention

More information:

- <u>www.wetsus.nl</u>
- <u>www.watermining.eu</u>
- wokke.wijdeveld@wetsus.nl







# Renewable granular active carbon for removal of organic micropollutants in urban wastewater



# **SAC pilot experiment**

### **GOALS:**

- 1. to produce renewable GAC with similar performances as commercially available GAC
- 2. to test renewable GACs for the elimination of organic micropollutants (OMPs) in urban wastewater at pilot scale experiment

### **APPROACH:**

- 1. Laboratory and pilot experiments to investigate the effect of pyrolysis and activation on GAC performances
- 2. Definition of the conditions for pyrolysis and activation of 2 renewable resource for GAC production
- 3. Production of renewables GAC
- 4. Operation of GAC filter (Pilot plant at AVA Altenrhein) for 8-12 months
## **Production of renewable GACs**

Phase	Objective
Pilot trials (Pyreka, Agroscope)	<ul> <li>To generate samples under different conditions:</li> <li>2 renewable resources (CP, SS)</li> <li>Temperature of pyrolisis and activation (700, 800, 900°C)</li> <li>Activation gas (CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O)</li> <li>Residence time (10, 20, 30')</li> </ul>
Characterization of samples	<ul> <li>To define physical properties and performances:</li> <li>Yield of production</li> <li>Particle size distribution</li> <li>Density</li> <li>Hardness</li> <li>Specific surface, and porous size distribution</li> <li>Adsorption (saK254, OMPs)</li> </ul>

6



## The GACs

Sample name	Cond.	SAK adsorption [%]	total area [m²/g]	total porous volume [m <sup>3</sup> /g]	PB hardness [%]	tap density [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	Production yield [%]
SS GAC	CO <sub>2</sub> _800°C	9	46	0.176	87	592	50
CP GAC	H <sub>2</sub> O_900°C	17	678	0.398	63.3	260	13
401V	-	23	Unk.	Unk.	>90	490	Unk.





- Filter 1 Chemviron 401V (401V)
- Filter 2 Cherry pit GAC NextGen (CP Nextgen)
- Filter 3 Sewage sludge GAC NextGen (SS Nextgen)
  - Sampling point





Geometry of the filters		
Diameter of the column	m	0.3
Height of GAK_the fixed bed contactor	m	1.8
Volume of the fixed bed contactor	m <sup>3</sup>	0.127
mass of SS_GAC	kg	67
mass of CP_GAC	kg	33
mass of 401V	kg	62

#### Analytics

SPE - LC MS for organic micropollutants OMP elimination

Sak254 and DOC as proxy for OMPs



- Automated backwashing system
- Automated sampling at the outlet

### Pilot study - 12 OMPs elimination



Nov 2020

### Pilot study - Relative sak254 elimination



### Pilot study - the «worst case» OMPs elimination



- 1. Venlafaxin
- 2. Candesartan
- 3. Irbesartan

# Pilot study - Relative DOC elimination



## Pilot study - DOC/OMP & sak/OMP correlation





- We identified 2 GAC from renewables sources to be tested at pilot scale
- After 5 months of operation, the first results indicate successfull elimination of OMPs via GAC filter
- Standard operating conditions do not ensure sufficient elimination as demanded in swiss ordinance (i.e. 80% elimination). Operating conditions of the filters should be optimized (EBCT and O<sub>3</sub> dosage)
- Sak254 and DOC are useful but not accurate proxy for OMP elimination. Direct measurements of OMP is always preferable.

### Thank you for your attention!



Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz



M. Thomann



A. Nättorp



D. Gysin



T. Bisang

M. Huspeka



ABWASSERVERBAND ALTENRHEIN



C. Egli

R. Peng





W. Goldinger

# **Ontact details**



#### Luca Loreggian

+41 61 228 55 68 luca.loreggian@fhnw.ch

Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz FHNW Hochschule für Life Sciences Institut für Ecopreneurship

Hofackerstrasse 30 CH - 4132 Muttenz



#### **Annex 3: Presentations – Biogas technologies**





WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# Online seminar on innovative biogas technologies

A. Kleyböcker, S. Casa Garriga, F. Fantone, C. Bruni

### **October, 30th 2020**

### **Ultimate (June 2020 – May 2024):**

### Industry water-utility symbiosis for a smarter water society

- Promotion, establishment and extension of Water Smart Industrial Symbioses
- Development and demonstration of **innovative technologies** for symbioses
- Assessment of the technologies and development of digital "support tools"
- Development of new business models towards marketability







### **3 Cross-cutting Technology Groups: 9** Topics





KOMPETENZZENTRUM Wasser Berlin

UNIVERSITÀ

POLITECNICA DELLE MARCHE

A. Kleyböcker

- **Biogas technologies**
- **Heat recovery**
- Digitalization



S. Casas

- **Membrane technologies**
- **Adsorption technologies**
- **Advanced oxidation processes**





### Online seminar on innovative biogas technologies

- 10:15 **Biogas production in CS7 Tain**: Biogas production in an anaerobic membrane bioreactor (AnMBR) from distillery effluent *Marc Pidou (Cranfield University)*
- 10:30 **Biogas production in CS5 Lleida**: AnMBR versus bioelectrochemical fluidized bed reactor (BEFB) *Antonio Giménez Lorang (FCC Aqualia)*
- 10:45 **Biogas production in CS6 Shafdan & Karmiel**: Immobilized high rate anaerobic system (AAT) & biogas process stabilizing measures (PAC) *Isam Sabbah (The Galilee Society)*
- 11:00 **NextGen**: Anaerobic treatment of weak effluents at low temperatures Ana Soares (Cranfield University)
- 11:30 **SmartPlant**: Biogas recovery in primary treatment with a polyfoam biofilter (AAT) *Isam Sabbah (The Galilee Society)*

7



WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# **CS 5 Lleida/Ostrava**

A. Giménez-Lorang



**Biogas production in CS5 Lleida: AnMBR versus BEFB,** 



#### ENERGY - Task 1.3.2

Anaerobic treatment of brewery wastewater and electricity production via solid-oxide fuel cell

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

**Biogas production**  $\rightarrow$  biogas upgrading to biomethane  $\rightarrow$  heat

**Electricity production** via solid-oxide fuel cell operated with biogas or methane





### **BEFB = BioElectrochemical Fluidized Bed**





The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

## **AnMBR = Anaerobic Membrane Bioreactor**



SAnMBR control system: co-patented with U.Valencia / Polytechnic U. Valencia EP16382140.8













The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



### **AnMBR vs. BEFB**

	Anmbr	Befb
Suspended matter tolerance	+	-
Quality of treated water / performance	++	+
Energy consumption	(-)	+
Methane productivity	?=¿	;=?
Biogas heat value	;?	;?
Toxic / inhibitory compounds tolerance / resilience	-	+
Organic overload tolerance / resilience	-	+
Low temperature tolerance / resilience	-	+
Nutrient removal	-	+



6



### **BEFB** biogas quality – self-sufficient process





The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

# Nutrient removal through an anaerobic treatment





The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



### **Fuel Cells**

- Conversion of chemical energy of fuel (hydrogen, natural gas, methanol, other hydrocarbon) into electric and heat energy.
- Classification according to electrolyte, fuel or operation temperature.
- To gain competitiveness: Sector trying to decrease material production cost, energetic production cost (<40\$/kW) and increasing durability.

Туре	Advantages			Disadvantages		
SOFC Solid oxide fuel cell	<ul> <li>High efficiency, suitable for CHP</li> <li>Fuel flexibility, tolerance to fuel impurities</li> <li>No need for precious metal catalysts</li> </ul>			<ul> <li>Long startup time</li> <li>High temperature corrosion and break down of fuel cell elements</li> </ul>		
SOLID		Electrical efficiency <sup>**</sup> Overall efficiency <sup>**</sup> Seasonal space heating energy efficiency class Annual fuel consumption <sup>***</sup> Fuel types	Up to 57% Up to 88% A <sup>+++</sup> 22.000 kW Natural gas Bio methan LNG	/h per year s according EN 437 ne	<u>Schedule:</u> 6/21: 1st trial in urban WWTP (Lleida) +	
BlueGen BG-15	1	Fuel inlet pressure Water consumption	Max pressu Min pressu up to 32 l/	ure: 25 mbar ure: 15 mbar day	9/2022: 2nd trial in industrial WWTP	
*** The project los		Electrical power supply	Max: 0.2 kW		Mahou San Miguel (Lleida)	



The project leading to this application ha

Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# **CS 5 Lleida/Ostrava**

A. Giménez-Lorang



**Biogas production in CS5 Lleida: AnMBR versus BEFB,** 



WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# CS7 – Tain (Glenmorangie distillery)



Meeting: October, 30th 2020



### Sustai strate

# Sustainability strategy

- Wastewater treatment for discharge in the Dornoch Firth
- Biogas production for energy recovery as heat
- Nutrient rich sludge used a soil enhancer in local Barley fields



#### **Glenmorangie's Waste Water Treatment**



 Dornoch Environmental Enhancement Project: restore Native European oysters and enhance biodiversity in the Dornoch Firth





### **Biogas scrubber and boiler**

Packed tower scrubber for H<sub>2</sub>S removal



https://www.forbesgroup.co.uk/environmental-technologies/packed-tower/



5

Biogas fired steam boiler	
num continuous rating (kg/hr)	

Maximum continuous rating (kg/hr)	2067
Design temperature (°C)	188
Working pressure	8 barg



### **Current system**

**Reduces the dependence in fossil fuel** 

#### of the distillery by 15%






# As part of Ultimate...





The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



#### WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# Thank you!



WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# **Biogas production in CS6 Shafdan & Karmiel:**

Immobilized high rate anaerobic system (AAT) & biogas process stabilizing measures

I. Sabbah, K. Baransi-Karkaby, N. Massalha, G. Horn, A. Aharoni, H. Raanan Kiperwas, D. Iossifidis, E. Bizani, C. Christophoridis, M. Touloupi

CS meeting on "Biogas Technologies": October, 30th 2020

# Symbiosis in Karmiel and Shafdan:





The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

#### Methane Yield: 0.12-0.15 m<sup>3</sup> CH<sub>4</sub>/kg oDM















>etv Aim Reduced loads of COD and TSS on the biological treatment system  $\rightarrow$  Energyefficient water reuse; **Biogas** production.



Horizon 2020 European Commission

The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's

European Union Funding for Research & Innovation



### Operation

- 240 m<sup>3</sup>/d waste water flow
- 55-60% COD removal
- 50% TSS removal
- HRT= 2-4 hours

### **Recovery Efficiency**

- 5-10 m<sup>3</sup> biogas/day
- 72% CH4%





6



# Shaving the peaks







The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

Methane Yield: 0.18-0.22 m<sup>3</sup> CH<sub>4</sub>/kg oDM

 $\diamond$ 

**Innovation:** The use of immobilized biomass in PAC fixed foam instead of granular biomass offers a promising approach for fouling reduction which is unexplored yet within AnMBR technologies.









The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



### MATERIAL - Task 1.4.5

Recovery of high-value products from olive mill wastewater in Karmiel

### **OBJECTIVES:**

**Recovery of** polyphenols from olive mill wastewater

### **Content of study:**

- Pre-trials in lab-scale
- Pilot plant system with an adsorption column -
- Extraction with pressurised hot water



**Partners**:

30 K m<sup>3</sup>/d



The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement



**Karmiel** 



Greener than Green



#### WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS



Prof. Isam Sabbah (GSR and AGB)



Dr. Katie Baransi Karkaby



Sari Musa



Claire Tawafshi



Ms. Nura Awwad M.Sc. Student



Mr. Stav Shimshoni M.Sc. Student



Gilad Horn (AGB)- CEO



Dr. Nedal Massalha (AGB & GSR) -CTO and researcher



Mahdi Hassanin

CS meeting on "Biogas Technologies": October, 30<sup>th</sup> 2020





Thank you



SmartPlant: Biogas recovery in primary treatment with a polyfoam biofilter Advanced Anaerobic Treatment (AAT)

Evaluation and simulation at a pilot-scale system

### Isam Sabbah





Webinar on "Biogas Technologies": October, 30th 2020



Commission

Horizon 2020 European Union funding for Research & Innovation



# Introduction

#### **OBJECTIVE**:

Pilot scale evaluation of the start-up and operation of the Advanced Anaerobic Treatment (AAT) reactor receiving real municipal wastewater and the recovery of biogas as sub-product.

- Applied before secondary biological treatment units to reduce organic loads and consequently operational costs (e.g. O<sub>2</sub> supply); shaving peaks of illegal agro-industrial discharge streams;
- Completely different approach to traditional UASB reactors due to the "bio-stabilized", polymerbased matrix impregnated with anaerobic microorganisms;
- More stable operation because the matrix provides physical protection for the microorganisms and therefore resulting in no biomass washout;
- **Recovery of CH**<sub>4</sub> as a bioproduct with a high potential for energy generation;
- The aim is the implementation of this robust, affordable, and environmentally sound process guarantees sustainable wastewater treatment adhering to existing and future effluent quality requirements and energy-saving approaches.





#### http://smart-plant.eu/index.php/map



Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union





### SMARTechs integrated in existing WWTPs (transformed in WRRFs)







SMARTech2b and Downstream SMARTech B - Manresa WWTP (Spain)



SMARTech3 – WWTP at Cranfield University (UK)





SMARTech 4b - Psyttalia WWTP (Greece)





Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union



### **ACHIEVEMENTS OF SMART-PLANT**

C	SMARTech n.	Integrated municipal WWTP	Key enabling process(es)	SMART-product(s)
strean	ETV	Geestmerambacht (Netherlands)	Upstream dynamic fine- screen and post-processing of cellulosic sludge	Cellulosic sludge, refined clean cellulose
Mains	ETV	Karmiel (Israel)	Mainstream polyurethane- based <b>anaerobic biofilter</b>	Biogas, Energy- efficient water reuse
	2b	Manresa (Spain)	Mainstream SCEPPHAR	Struvite, PHA
c	3 )стv	Cranfield (UK)	Mainstream <b>tertiary hybrid</b> ion exchange	Nutrients
rean	4a	Carbonera (Italy)	Sidestream SCENA	P-rich sludge, VFA
dest	4b	Psyttalia (Greece)	Sidestream Thermal hydrolysis – SCENA	P-rich sludge
Sic	5	Carbonera (Italy)	Sidestream SCEPPHAR	PHA, struvite, VFA







### Circular Economy:

The talk is about resources recovery from wastewater by biological technologies, where **Anaerobic** treatment plays the main role within the concept of **circular economy**.

#### Circular economy is alternative for linear economy: make, use, dispose



#### The economic value of the resource

Resource	Per m <sup>3</sup>	US \$ per m <sup>3</sup>	US \$ per 1000 gal
Organic soil conditioner	0.10 kg	0.026	0.10
Methane	0.14 m <sup>3</sup>	0.065	0.25
Nitrogen	0.05 kg	0.065	0.25
Phosphorus	0.01 kg	0.013	0.05
Water	1 m <sup>3</sup>	0.325	1.20

From Willy Verstraete (2008)



### **History of Anaerobic Reactor**

- **1881:** First conventional anaerobic digester was used to liquidify the solid components of sewage
- **1891:** First septic tank to retain solids in sewage
- **1905:** Development of the 'Imhoff' tank in Germany
- **1930s:** Digesters were started to be mixed and heated to improve the digestion of solids in the sewage
- **1955:** Anaerobic contact process was developed to treat soluble organics and dilute wastewaters (**first high-rate system**)



# Anaerobic Waste Treatment Fundamentals

#### Public Work 1964

3

PART ONE | Chemistry and Microbiology

PERRY L. McCARTY Associate Professor of Sanitary Engineering Stanford University

portant parameters for design, operation, and control. This first article is concerned with a general description together with the chemistry portion converted to cells is not actually stabilized, but is simply changed in form. Although these cells can be removed from the waste







carbohydrates, fat and proteins are broken down into mono/disaccharides, fatty acids and amino acids by exo-enzymes monomers are taken up by bacteria and converted to H<sub>2</sub> CO<sub>2</sub>, volatile fatty acids (VFA) and alcohols by fermentation VFA, H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> are metabolized into acetic acid acetic acid, H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> are converted into CH<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>5</sub>

very sensitive to environmental changes, e.g. T. pH, VFA rate-limiting reaction in anaerobic digestion!



SMART











## SMART-Plant Approach





Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 690323

#### **SMARTech 2a** – <u>Mainstream polyurethane-based anaerobic biofilter with biogas recovery</u> WWTP – Karmiel, Israel











►TV Aim
Reduced loads of COD and
TSS on the biological
treatment system → Energy<u>efficient water reuse;</u>
Biogas production.

European

Commission

Horizon 2020 European Union funding for Research & Innovation



**Operational characteristics** – <u>Mainstream polyurethane-based anaerobic biofilter with</u> <u>biogas recovery</u> WWTP – Karmiel, Israel



- > The matrix has large surface area and high capacity that enables the loading of a higher number of microorganisms compared to incumbent wastewater treatment methods;
- The AAT technology increases process stability, decreases energy consumption, lowers operational costs and enhances the efficiency of the anaerobic process for methane production;
- > The bio-stabilizers are prepared in special, patented, modular units and inserted into a proprietary modified high rate up-flow anaerobic system (HRUA);
- > This hybrid immobilized-HRUA exhibits better performance characteristics and lower cost, without the need for the typical expensive three–phase separator.





### Operation

- 240 m<sup>3</sup>/d waste water flow
- 55-60% COD removal
- 50% TSS removal
- HRT= 2-4 hours

### **Recovery Efficiency**

- 5-10 m<sup>3</sup> biogas/day
- 72% CH<sub>4</sub>

of the European Union



#### Methane Yield: 0.12-0.15 m<sup>3</sup> CH<sub>4</sub>/kg oDM



Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 690323



## Shaving the peaks











Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 690323







Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union **Material and Methods** – <u>Mainstream polyurethane-based anaerobic biofilter with biogas</u> <u>recovery</u> WWTP – Karmiel, Israel



#### **Operational data from over 1-year of experimental data (October 2017 – January 2019)**

#### Two scenarios were evaluated during the operation period:

- Scenario 1: raw sewage flowed first to the primary clarifier (PC) before flowing into the AAT (Q = 48– 120 m<sup>3</sup>.d<sup>-1</sup>) – startup phase – <u>HRT: 0.4 – 0.2 d (9.6-4.8 h)</u>;
- 2. <u>Scenario 2</u>: raw sewage flowed directly into the AAT (Q = 120 m<sup>3</sup>.d<sup>-1</sup>) steady-state phase <u>HRT:</u> <u>0.2d (4.8 h)</u>;
- The following parameters were analysed : total COD, soluble COD, particulate COD, TSS, and gasflow;
- Modelling was done with data from the second scenario.



### Modelling approach – Mainstream polyurethane-based anaerobic biofilter with biogas

<u>recovery</u> WWTP – Karmiel, Israel



#### **Considerations:**

Anaerobic Digestion Model 1 (ADM1);

SMART-Plant

- ➤ Two separate completely-mixed reactors in series → plug-flow regime;
- Simulation software AQUASIM 2.1v;
- Sludge Retention Time (SRT):
  - ➤ Matrix reactor = ∞ (biomass remains in the reactor);
  - Second reactor = 20 d (similar to normal UASB);
- Higher concentration of biomass in the matrix reactor;
- Fixed percentages used for the influent characterisation into state-variables.

Horizon 2020

European Union funding

for Research & Innovation

European

Commission

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Scenario (steady-state operation without PC) – Mainstream polyurethane-

based anaerobic biofilter with biogas recovery WWTP – Karmiel, Israel






### 2<sup>nd</sup> Scenario (steady-state operation without PC) – Mainstream polyurethane-

based anaerobic biofilter with biogas recovery WWTP – Karmiel, Israel











Variable	NRMSD
COD <sub>t</sub>	0.178
COD <sub>s</sub>	0.176
Gas flow	0.133

#### Good fit to the experimental data $\rightarrow$ relatively low NRMSD







**COD EFFLUENT** TOTAL GAS FLOW (HEADSPACE) 1.4 12 1.2 Ъ 10  $\diamond$ 1 kgCOD.m<sup>-3</sup> ₽\_ 8 0.8  $m^3.d^{-1}$ 0.6 6 п 0.4 4 0.2 2 0 0 50 100 150 200 250 0 0 50 100 150 200 250 Time (days) Time (days) exp COD tot exp COD S ..... COD S - - - COD Tot ٥ – – – Simulated Gasflow ♦ Observed gasflow

> Model validated with a separate set of data → considering seasonal variation → towards the end data set the model predicted well the amount of CODt and CODs → gasflow was also affected but predicted low flows at the end



# **Conclusions** – <u>Mainstream polyurethane-based anaerobic biofilter with biogas recovery</u> WWTP – Karmiel, Israel



After 390 days of continuous operation of the AAT which included the startup phase and consequently the steady-state phase, the following conclusions can be made:

- ✓ The biomass within the reactor adapated well to the real domestic sewage;
- ✓ After removing the PC, the biomass adapted well to the higher organic load received and continued to increase removal efficiency and biogas production;
- ✓ No bad odours were encountered in the vicinity;
- ✓ Very good removal effciecieny was observed given the low HRT of the reactor and organic load
- ✓ The modelling approach with the ADM1 adapted well to the characteristics of the reactor, therefore usable for future purposes;
- The purpose of the model is to contribute to designing similar processes in other applications and to allow for also process optimisation. This could be done by varying the flow rates, and lower or higher influent concentrations. It also allows to predict eventual biogas recovery and therefore foresee the amount of a renewable energy that is recovered, as well as the impact on downstream units.



Commission

Horizon 2020 European Union funding for Research & Innovation









# Anaerobic treatment of weak effluents at low temperatures

**Professor Ana Soares** 

www.cranfield.ac.uk



\*Tchobanoglous, G., Burton, L.F. and Stensel, H.D. (2003) Metcalf & Eddy, Inc., McGraw-Hill Book Co, International edition. \*Young, D.F. and Koopman, B. (1991) Journal of Environmental Engineering-Asce 117(3), 300-307



## Anaerobic digestion vs anaerobic treatment







## **Upflow anaerobic sludge blanket reactor (UASB)**

- Maintains a high concentration of biomass through formation of highly settleable microbial aggregates
- The sewage flows upwards through a layer of sludge
- Separation between gas-solid-liquid takes place at the top of the reactor phase
- Recirculation enables solids to be recirculated to the sludge zone
- Widely used for treatment of municipal sewage in warm climates
- Number of studies at pilot-scale in temperate climates





### **Standard UASB performance in temperate climates**

Number of studies (temperatures: 8-22°C)

Raw wastewater -14

Settled wastewater - 4

Settled WW (eff. averages): TSS<sub>eff</sub>.: 37 mg/L (71% removal) COD<sub>eff</sub>: 139 mg/L (54% removal) Desired performance: BOD<sub>eff</sub>: 25 mg/L COD<sub>eff</sub>: 125 mg/L (>80% removal) TSS<sub>eff</sub>: 35 mg/L (>70% removal)







		Granular-UASB	Flocculent-UASB
Hydrolysis rate	%	23.0 ± 5.6	<b>23.1 ± 7.4</b>
Acidigenisis rate	%	37.9 ± 4.9	54.1 ± 5.5
Methanogenesis rate	%	43.1 ± 4.0	48.8±5.5



# Comparison granular and flocculent UASB reactors for wastewater treatment in temperate climates (10C)

	Temperature	°C	Granular-UASB $10.2 \pm 1.5$	Flocculent -UASE $10.2 \pm 1.5$
TSS	Influent	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	113 ± 23	113 ± 23
	UASB effluent	mg L - 1	69 ± 11	75 ± 9 <sup>°</sup>
	Removal	96	$42 \pm 13$	39 ± 14°
COD,	Influent	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	$213 \pm 62$	$213 \pm 62$
	UASB effluent	mg L <sup>-3</sup>	$129 \pm 19$	$140 \pm 25^{\circ}$
	Removal	96	41 ± 14	36 ± 16"
SCOD	Influent	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	72 ± 16	$72 \pm 16$
	UASB effluent	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	$64 \pm 13$	$60 \pm 13$
	Removal	96	$18 \pm 12$	$24 \pm 14$
BOD <sub>5</sub>	Influent	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	$107 \pm 22$	$107 \pm 22$
	UASB effluent	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	84 ± 8	88 ± 10
	Removal	96	26 ± 17	19 ± 11



Granular Flocculent



Wang KW, Soares A, Jefferson B, McAdam E. 2019. Comparable membrane permeability can be achieved in granular and flocculent anaerobic membrane bioreactor for sewage treatment through better sludge blanket control. Journal of Water Process. 28:181-189.



## **UASB configurations that can enhance solids retention**

- 1. UASB with (2-3) three solid phase separators
- 2. UASB with increased diameter
- 3. UASB with support media (expanded bed biofilm reactor)
- 4. Package UASB coupled with lamella settler
- 5. Two stage UASB
- 6. Y shaped UASB
- 7. UASB combined with membrane filtration
- 8. UASB combined with microscreens/microstrainers
- 9. UASB combined with granular media filter
- 10. UASB combined with rapid filter/slow sand filter
- 11. UASB coupled with sponge media on top of the digester compartment
- 12. UASB coupled with sponge media filtration





### **Solids capture in UASB**



Ribera-Pi J, Campitelli A, Badia-Fabregat M, Jubany I, Martínez-Lladó X, McAdam E, Jefferson B, Soares A. 2020. Hydrolysis in upflow anaerobic sludge blanket reactors treating municipal wastewater under psychrophilic conditions: the importance of reactor configuration. Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology



### **UASB + MBR (anMBR) performance**



UASB	Methane yield (m <sup>3</sup> CH <sub>4</sub> / kg COD <sub>removed</sub> )				
7°C	0.13				
20°C	0.19				
anMBR					
7°C	0.19				
20°C	0.28				

Municipal wastewater 8-12°C HRT 8 h upflow velocity: 0.4 m/h

Wang KW, Soares A, Jefferson B, McAdam E. 2019. Comparable membrane permeability can be achieved in granular and flocculent anaerobic membrane bioreactor for sewage treatment through better sludge blanket control. Journal of Water Process. 28:181-189.

Ribera-Pi J, Campitelli A, Badia-Fabregat M, Jubany I, Martínez-Lladó X, McAdam E, Jefferson B, Soares A. 2020. Hydrolysis in upflow anaerobic sludge blanket reactors treating municipal wastewater under psychrophilic conditions: the importance of reactor configuration. Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology.



## H2020 NEXT-GEN

- NextGen demonstrates innovative technological, business and governance solutions for water in the circular economy in ten high-profile, large-scale, demonstration cases across Europe, and we will develop the necessary approaches, tools and partnerships, to transfer and upscale.
- The resources include:







The consortium has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 776541.

## **#5. Spernal (UK)** Waste Water Treatment Plant

#### **Circular solutions for**

#### **Relevant data**

Waste water plant serving the town of Redditch (Birmingham, UK): 92.000 PE

#### **Relevant sectors**



Agriculture





Domestic sector





Wate

**Energy sector** 



Innovation Centre" where emerging technologies compatible with a low energy, circular economy approach will be evaluated.

very and

Energy

vern Tren

A multi-stream test bed facility was constructed in 2019 and this will incorporate an anaerobic membrane bioreactor (AnMBR) to be commissioned in Summer 2020. The AnMBR will also comprise a membrane degassing unit to recover dissolved methane and ion exchange processes to recover nitrogen and phosphorus from the effluent.

AnMBR combines several benefits such as:

Materials

- no aeration energy for removal of Chemical and Biological Oxygen Demand (COD/BOD)
- low sludge production and hence reduced downstream sludge treatment costs
- biogas production (production of electricity/heat
- pathogen and solids free effluent which can be re-used in a number of applications (e.g.: farming and industrial use).



## **Building in Spernal**



- Construction and commissioning of resource recovery innovation center completed in October 2019 – drone footage on right
- AnMBR to be commissioned in Summer 2020

   fabrication of the UASB reactors (Waterleau) shown on left

## Video of R2IC in file sent via

https://youtu.be/BeETnMSnjss





## **NEXT-GEN Demonstration case Spernal WWTP**





### Pilot data on the UASB with the same

JUL-SEPT 2020		Pilot hall sewage characterisation		Removal rates (%)	OCT 2020 –	Pilot hall sewage characterisation		Removal rates (%)	
(T=1	8°C)	Influent	R1 UASB effluent	R1 UASB	(T=13°C)		Influent	R1 UASB effluent	R1 UASB
COD	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	153	56	63	COD	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	181	100	45
sCOD	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	36	29	19	sCOD	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	44	39	11
BOD <sub>5</sub>	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	65	38	42	BOD <sub>5</sub>	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	71	44	38
TSS	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	117	37	68	TSS	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	111	41	63
VSS	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	108	31	71	VSS	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	96	37	61
SO <sub>4</sub>	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	62	40	35	SO <sub>4</sub>	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	68	43	37



Gas sensors and dissolved methane probe to assist on the measurement of energy production in the AnMBR

OCT 2020 – ongoing	R1 UASB	
<b>Biogas production</b>	L d-1	0.6
Dissolved CH <sub>4</sub> /total CH <sub>4</sub>	%	93.6
Methane yield	L CH <sub>4</sub> /g COD	0.13



In the process, water passes through the outside (shell side) of the hollow fibres while a sweep gas (or vacuum) is applied to the inside (lumen side) of the fibres. Because the membrane is hydrophobic it allows direct contact between gas and water without dispersion

Applying a higher pressure to the water stream relative to the gas stream creates the driving force for dissolved gas in the water to pass through the membrane pores.

- Technology provider 3M (Membrana)
- The methane will be sent to the gas bag



- 360 m3/day WWTP
- anMBR energy consumption 0.25 kWh/m<sup>3</sup>, production 0.2-0.5 kWh/m<sup>3</sup>
- Heat recovery is of high relevance
- The anaerobic digestion of primary sludge balances energy and ensures solids management in the anMBR

kWh/year

Wang KW, Soares A, Jefferson B, McAdam E. 2019. Comparable membrane permeability can be achieved in granular and flocculent anaerobic membrane bioreactor for sewage treatment through better sludge blanket control. Journal of Water Process. 28:181-189.

Ribera-Pi J, Campitelli A, Badia-Fabregat M, Jubany I, Martínez-Lladó X, McAdam E, Jefferson B, Soares A. 2020. Hydrolysis in upflow anaerobic sludge blanket reactors treating municipal wastewater under psychrophilic conditions: the importance of reactor configuration. Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology.







#### **Annex 4: Presentations – Heat recovery**





WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# Online seminar on heat recovery

A. Kleyböcker, S. Casa Garriga, F. Fantone, C. Bruni

# **February, 26th 2021**

# **Ultimate (June 2020 – May 2024):**

## Industry water-utility symbiosis for a smarter water society

- Promotion, establishment and extension of Water Smart Industrial Symbioses
- Development and demonstration of **innovative technologies** for symbioses
- Assessment of the technologies and development of digital "support tools"
- Development of new business models towards marketability











- F. Fatone C. Bruni
- **Nutrient recovery**
- **High added value products**
- **Metal recovery**



KOMPETENZZENTRUM Wasser Berlin

A. Kleyböcker

- **Biogas technologies**
- **Heat recovery**
- Digitalization





# **Online seminar on heat recovery**

- 10:15 **CS7 Tain**: Heat recovery from anaerobic membrane bioreactor effluent Marc Pidou (Cranfield University)
- 10:30 **CS8 Chemical platform of Roussillon**: Recovery of heat from flue gas washing water Anne Reguer (IWS Chemicals, Recycling & Recovery Europe, Suez)
- 10:45 **CS2 Nieuw-Prisenland**: High temperature aquifer thermal energy solution in greenhouses *Marette Zwamborn (KWR*)
- 11:00 Short break
- 11:05 **NextGen**: Aquifer thermal energy system at the greenhouse of Koppert-Cress Martin Bloemendal (TU Delft & KWR)
- 11:30 **BioKS**: How to avoid corrosion in aquifer thermal energy systems in Germany? *Hilke Würdemann (Merseburg University of Applied Sciences )*

7

26 February 2021

HT-ATES Aquifer thermal energy storage in greenhouses

**ULTIMATE CS2 Nieuw-Prinsenland** 

Marette Zwamborn, KWR



Bridging Science to Practice



# $\sim$ CS2: HT-ATES in greenhouses

#### Objective

• Demonstrate HT-ATES for greenhouses

#### Methodology

- Determine suitable aquifers
- Modelling studies (recovery efficiency)
- Cost-benefit analysis
- ightarrow Feasibility study

#### KPI's

- CO<sub>2</sub> reduction [t/a]
- Delivered heat cost [€/GJ]
- Heat recovery factor aquifer [ ]



Website Heatstore (EU Geothermica)



# $\sim$ Why HT-ATES in greenhouses

#### Why HT-ATES?

- Match heat demand and supply
- Seasonal storage, optimal use of sustainable energy

#### Heat demand in greenhouses:

• High demand in winter, low in summer

Heat supply:

- ↓ Gas (boiler of combined heat-and-power)
- ↑ Geothermal or residual heat (baseload)
- ↑ Solar thermal or power-to-heat (variable)





# $\sim$ HT-ATES typical features

#### HT-ATES:

- Storage temperature up to 90°C
- Warm and cold well(s)
- Aquifer depth 100 500 mbgl
- Heat capacity 2 20 MW<sub>th</sub>
- Heat storage 10.000 150.000 GJ/a
- Recovery efficiency 10 90%

Current research projects on HT-ATES:

- HEATSTORE, Nextgen, WINDOW, WarmingUP
- HT-ATES is not a proven technique yet



#### Website Heatstore (EU Geothermica)

### ~ Results from current research

# WARMING<sup>UP</sup>







KWR






## Sustainable energy for greenhouse area Westland

Combination of geothermal system and HT-ATES:

• Expected to be a winning combination!

#### Development of geothermal energy systems:

- Trias Westland
- Polanen
- Maasdijk



## Pilot Westland (Maasdijk) determine suitable aquifers

Determine suitable aquifers:

- Develop a cost-effective method
- Combine drilling of a geothermal well with ٠ the screening of potential HT-ATES aquifers
- Geohydrological riks aspects are seized •
- No separate test drilling needed •

Challenge while drilling the geothermal well: Dependency on time schedule Possible measurements



#### **Energie Transitie Partners**

Meer informatic op: etp-westland.nl

Energie Transitie Partners is opgericht om oplossingen te bieden Voor de verduurzaming van de glastuinbouw. ETP is een gezamenlijke onderrieming van HVC en Capturam (onderdeel van Westland Infra). Trias Westland in Naaldwijk is een aardwarmteproject dat uit deze samenwerking is voortgekomen.



## KWR

Groningenhaven 7 3433 PE Nieuwegein The Netherlands

T +31 (0)30 60 69 511 E info@kwrwater.nl I www.kwrwater.nl





### Marette Zwamborn Marette.Zwamborn@kwrwater.nl



### Martin Bloemendal Martin.Bloemendal@kwrwater.nl



WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# CS7 – Tain (Glenmorangie distillery)



Meeting: October, 30th 2020



## **Treatment systems**











The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

## Impact of temperature: Ammonia recovery





The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/earth-and-planetary-sciences/ammonia

## Impact of temperature: RO membranes







Temperature, °C	TDS, mg/l	Pressure, bar
5	12	27.3
10	13	23.1
15	14	19.7
20	16	17.0
25	17	14.8
30	19	14.8
35	21	11.9
40	23	10.8
45	26	9.8
50	28	9.0
55	31	8.3
60	35	7.7
65	38	7.2
70	43	6.8

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/26 4420571\_Performance\_of\_Reverse\_Osmosi s\_Units\_at\_High\_Temperatures



https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/art icle/pii/S0011916403800413?via%3Dihub



## It's all about trade-offs!



#### WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# Thank you!

## ULTIMATE – CS 8 SUEZ RR IWS CHEMICALS FRANCE, CHEMICAL PLATFORM OF ROUSSILLON

**CS** Meeting on « Heat Recovery »

26/02/2021



### Contents

**1.** Situation before ULTIMATE

**2.** Objectives of ULTIMATE





# 1.

## Situation before ULTIMATE



## Situation before ULTIMATE

#### THERMAL TREATMENT OF INDUSTRIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE





### Situation before ULTIMATE

#### VALORISATION

No steam production, due to the high ash content of waste

Heat recovery from water used for flue gas treatment to evapo-concentrate a few part of aqueous waste

**No material recovery** 









#### **ENERGY USE ON SITE**

#### **Electricity**

For equipment : pumps, agitators... For instrumentation : valves, sensors... For electric tracing of pipes For lighting...

#### Vapor

To preheat combustion air Pipe cleaning

...



FORM OF ENERGY

RECOVERED



#### **SOME IDEAS :**

**Combustion air preheating (via heat exchanger)** 

Sludge preheating to improve dryness of the pressed sludge at the filter press outlet

**Power generation by the mean of :** 

- Organic Rankine Cycle
- Stirling engine
- Thermoelectric generators
- ...



#### **EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL RECOVERY OF THERMAL ENERGY :**

**Feasibility study report including :** 

- a technical solution (or advantages and disadvantages matrix)
- investment cost and operating cost (€)
- recovery form (electricity, steam, heat) and use
- energy recovery rate (%)
- reduction of energy consumption (%) and resulting profits ( $\in$ )



#### THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION











## (HT-)ATES system of Koppert-Cress

Dr. Martin Bloemendal 26-02-2021

KWR **ŤU**Delft



## Koppert-Cress (KC) pilot



#### KOPPERT CRESS Architecture Aromatique

#### **Adji Cress**

Pittig, zuur

#### Smaak Gebruik Teelt

Frisse gerechten, guacamole, zeebaars Maatschappelijk verantwoorde teelt met biologische gewasbescherming

Houdbaarheid

Beschikbaarheid laarrond Tot zeven dagen bij 2-7°C

#### Oorsprong

Adji Cress is een gewas dat zijn oorsprong vindt in het Verre Oosten, met name Japan, Zuid Korea en China. In Japan is het van oudsher een delicatesse in combinatie met vette vis.



Adji Cress (Zonthoxylum

Beschikbaarheid en houdbaarheid

Adji Cress is jaarrond verkrijgbaar en kan tot zeven dagen bewaard worden tussen 2°C en 7°C.

De optimale temperatuur, waarbij de kwaliteit het best

## **Ú**Delft





Morgenston

## ATES



KWR **Ťu**Delft

## Koppert-Cress: HT-ATES pilot

- >25°C
- Permitted as "pilot-project"
- max 40°C
- Goal: Performance & monitor impact



## The ATES system of KC



KWR **ŤU**Delft

## The ATES system of KC



KWR **ŤU**Delft

## The transition to HT-ATES

- Heating demand > Cooling demand
  - System not in balance
- Add extra (HT) heat
- Transition: storage temperature increases after 2015

KWR **Ťu**Delft

## Extra heat and higher temperature



KWR **ŤU**Delft

## Increasing $T_{in} \& \Delta T$

KWR



9

## Increasing $T_{in} \& \Delta T$



KWR **ŤU**Delft

## ATES system not in balance



11

## ATES system not in balance



KWR **Ťu**Delft

## hitoring system



### **TU**Delft



## **DTS** monitoring



KWR **ŤU**Delft
# Thermal impact: horizontal



Long-term horizontal impact is small







Temperature

# **Thermal impact: vertical**



# Conclusions

- Inbalanced system can be efficiently compensated with external heat
- Thermal impact is small
  - All heat is extracted
  - <40C
- DTS Monitoring:
  - Suitable to measure temporal Temp differences

# What else did we investigate?

- Performance of heating/cooling system
  - 10% lower operational costs
  - 30-70% less GHG
- Groundwater monitoring
  - Chemical analysis
  - Micro-biological analysis



https://library.kwrwater.nl/publication/61755396/

## Future research for this case-study

The transition is not done yet...

- Future: more heat available (geothermal energy)
- More heat in warm wells: balance
- Long-term heating of subsurface around warm wells

KWR **ŤU**Delft

• Continue monitoring  $\rightarrow$  to be continued!

# (HT-)ATES system of Koppert-Cress

Dr. Martin Bloemendal <u>Martin.Bloemendal@kwrwater.nl</u> +31625179849

<u>The content of this presentation:</u> *Bloemendal, J.M.Beernink, S. Bel, N. van Hockin, A.E.Schout, G. (2020). Transitie open bodemenergiesysteem Koppert-Cress naar verhoogde opslagtemperatuur. Evaluatie van energiebesparingen en grondwatereffecten. KWR RAPPORT - KWR 2020.156* 

Contributions from: Stijn Beernink & Niels Hartog



KWR **Ťu**Delft



# From temperature data to thermal impact <sup>0</sup> Soil types

- Horizontal impact
- Vertical impact



# How to avoid corrosion and scaling in ATES systems in Germany?

<u>Hilke Würdemann</u>, Christoph Otten, Beate Dassler, Tobias Lienen, Anne Kleyböcker, Anja Narr, Anke Westphal, Stephanie Lerm and Sebastian Teitz

Hochschule Merseburg





# Microorganisms (MO) vs. technical applications

- Development of biofilms —> Clogging of pipes, filters, heat exchangers

- Mineral dissolution
- Degradation of scaling inhibitors

- $\longrightarrow$  Increase in porosity and permeability
  - → Less environmental impact





Molecular biological analysis: characterization of the microbial community composition and quantification



#### Genetic Fingerprinting



#### Quantitative real-time PCR



- Relative quantification related to the total community
- Absolute quantification of species or groups

## Microbiom analysis of Fluids and Biofilms





Forschungszentrur

Bundesministerium

und Energie

für Wirtschaft aufgrund eines Beschlusses des dt. Bundestags

# **Geothermal Heat Store Neubrandenburg**



Schematic illustration

Lerm et al. 2014

2007-2011	T [°C]	рН [-]	Na <sup>+</sup> [g l <sup>⁻1</sup> ]	Cl <sup>-</sup> [g l <sup>-1</sup> ]	NO₃ <sup>-</sup> [mg l <sup>-1</sup> ]	SO₄ <sup>2-</sup> [mg l <sup>-1</sup> ]	Fe <sup>2+</sup> [mg l <sup>-1</sup> ]
Cold well (CW)	46.7	6.1	47.0	78.5	b.d.l.	912	16.9
Warm well (WW)	73.2	6.0	47.2	78.5	b.d.l.	983	14.7

## Corrosion and Scaling in the "cold well"



## Microorganismen involved?





Hilke Würdemann Hochschule Merseburg

# Effects of plant downtime

 $\langle$ 



7

Causes	Date	Duration days]
Restart after pumping test	Apr 11	6
Technical defect during charge mode	Sept 11	28
Change of operation mode	Mar 12	7
Technical defect during charge mode	Aug 12	19
Change of operation mode	May 13	10
Technical defect during charge mode	Jun 13	32

Westphal et al. 2016

## Geothermal fluid and mineral properties – during restart –



Measurements after restart after produced volume [m <sup>3</sup> ]	SO4 <sup>2-</sup> [mg l <sup>-1</sup> ]	Fe <sup>2+</sup> [mg l <sup>-1</sup> ]	H <sub>2</sub> S [µg l <sup>-1</sup> ]	DOC [mgC l <sup>-1</sup> ]	Particle load [g m⁻³]	δ <sup>34</sup> S <sub>SO4</sub> (‰CDT)
5-30	1600 🕇 🕇	22	375 🕇	98.8	50,000	25
30-490	980	17	180	2.6	0.1	

**†**Increased concentrations after downtime

Westphal et al. 2016

Sulfate reducing and fermentative bacteria dominant members of the microbial community

- Sulfate reducing bacteria (SRB)
- Fermentative bacteria
- Sulfur oxidizing bacteria (SOB)
  - $\rightarrow$  Oxygen ingress
  - $\rightarrow$  Sulfur cycling
  - → Increased corrosion rates
    - --- Short stop of operation (< 3h)
- Westphal et al. 2016
- Long stop of operation (19h)



# **Geothermal Heat Store Neubrandenburg**



2007-2011	T [°C]	рН [-]	Na <sup>+</sup> [g l <sup>⁻1</sup> ]	CL <sup>-</sup> [g   <sup>-1</sup> ]	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> [mg l <sup>-1</sup> ]	SO4 <sup>2-</sup> [mg l <sup>-1</sup> ]	Fe <sup>2+</sup> [mg l <sup>-1</sup> ]
Cold well (CW)	46.7	6.1	47.0	78.5	b.d.l.	912	16.9
Warm well (WW)	73.2	6.0	47.2	78.5	b.d.l.	983	14.7

# Bypass system to study temperature effects on corrosion rate



Kleyböcker et al. 2017

## Corrosion over Exposure Time (Flow Time)







HOME

HOCHSCHULE MERSEBURG

University of Applied Sciences

# Coupons exposed to geothermal fluid (59 days) in the bypass system: - Effect of heat shock -



Vessel A: Coupons: 2 Temperature: 40 °C

Vessel B: Coupons: 2 Temperature: 40 °C & every 14 days: 78 °C (6 h)

Kleyböcker et al. 2017

# Temperature experiment (59 days): Shock temperature every 14 days

#### Vessel 1: T= 40 °C





#### Vessel 2: T= 40 °C & 78 °C (6 h)



### → Thinner biofilm layer after shock temperature

Kleyböcker et al. 2017

# Summary - Heat Store Neubrandenburg

- Growth of SOB indicates oxygen ingress during the downtime phase. The fast decline of SOB after plant restart indicates the exclusive affection of the well.
- Interaction of SRB and SOB might have enhanced the corrosion processes occurring in the geothermal plant.
- Heat shock is a promising procedure to reduce biofilms and corrosion.

# Geothermal Plant Unterhaching Use of a scaling inhibitor to avoid scaling



Otten et al. 2021

Quelle: Bundesverband Geothermie





Increase of *Bacteria* due to inhibitor dosage in fluid samples from different sampling sites at the geothermal plant Unterhaching over a monitoring since 700 days of inhibitor dosage.

\* below the sample specific detection limit

Otten et al. 2021

### Increase of bacteria after heat extraction and inhibitor dosage guantitative PCR (16S rRNA Bacteria)

#### Increase of bacteria after heat extraction and inhibitor dosage (qPCR of Bacteria, Sulfate-reducing bacteria and Archea)





Quantification with qPCR with primers for the 16S rRNA gene (*Bacteria* and methanogenic archaea) and the *dsrA*-gene for sulfate-reducing bacteria.

\* below the sample specific detection limit

Otten et al. 2021



### Change of the microbial community composition (Microbiome analysis)



Microbiome analysis



Characterization of the bacterial biocenosis of fluid samples from the plant exit at the geothermal plant Unterhaching since 700 days inhibitor dosage.

Blue: fermentative bacteria, Red sulfate-reducing bacteria

Otten et al. 2021

Gefördert durch:



\*

Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie

aufgrund eines Beschlusses des Deutschen Bundestages

## Many thanks for your attention



## Literature

- Lerm, S., Westphal, A., Miethling-Graff, R., Alawi, M., Seibt, A., Wolfgramm, M., Würdemann, H. (2013). Thermal effects on microbial composition and microbiologically induced corrosion and mineral precipitation affecting operation of a geothermal plant in a deep saline aquifer. Extremophiles. Volume 17, Issue 2, Page 311-327.
- Westphal et al. (2016). Effects of plant downtime on the microbial community composition in the highly saline brine of a geothermal plant in the North German Basin. Appl Microbiol Biotechnol 100(7):3277-3290.
- Würdemann, H., Westphal, A., Kleyböcker, A., Miethling-Graff, R., Teitz, S., Kasina, M., · Andrea Seibt, A., Wolfgramm, M., Eichinger, F., Lerm, S. (2016). Störungen des Betriebs geothermischer Anlagen durch mikrobielle Stoffwechselprozesse und Erfolg von Gegenmaßnahmen. Grundwasser 21 (2): 93-106. dOI 10.1007/s00767-016-0324-1.
- Kleyböcker, A., Lienen, T., Kasina, M., Westphal, A., Teitz, S., Eichinger, F., Seibt, A., Wolfgramm, M., Würdemann, H. (2017). Effects of heat shocks on biofilm formation and the influence on corrosion and scaling in a geothermal plant in the North German Basin Energy Procedia, Energy Procedia 125 (2017) 268–272. 10.1016/j.egypro.2017.08.173.
- Otten *et al.* (2021). Interactions between the calcium scaling inhibitor NC47.1 B, geothermal fluids, and microorganisms – Results of in situ monitoring in the Bavarian Molasse Basin (Germany) and accompanying laboratory experiments. Adv. Geoscience in print.

neu sw

HEMISCHE



HOME





#### **Annex 5: Presentations – Nutrient recovery**





WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# Online seminar Nutrient recovery

F. Fatone, A. Kleyböcker, S. Casas, C. Bruni, S. Radini

December, 17<sup>th</sup> 2020.

## Ultimate (June 2020 – May 2024) Industry water-utility symbiosis for a smarter water society

- Promotion, establishment and extension of Water Smart Industrial Symbioses
- Development and demonstration of innovative technologies for symbioses
- Assessment of the technologies and development of digital «support tools»
- Development of new business models towards marketability















The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318


### Water in the CEAP: still untapped resource?

"Furthermore, the Commission will develop an Integrated Nutrient Management Plan, with a view to ensuring more sustainable application of nutrients and stimulating the markets for recovered nutrients. The Commission will also consider reviewing directives on wastewater treatment and sewage sludge and will assess natural means of nutrient removal such as algae"









### **Policy and barriers**

European policies, regulations and directives Circular Economy Package Proposed new Common Agricultural Policies (CAP) New Fertilising Products Regulation (FPR)

#### **Remaining barriers**

No (apparent) willingness of customers to accept a premium for sustainability Possible customer reluctance if sewage-originated raw materials are declared Public procurement focusing on low cost instead of closed loops Except for Fertilising Products Regulation, harmonized European regulatory framework missing





### **More direct Support Needed**

Governance of Water-Energy-Food-Carbon nexus by quantified evidence and metrics Targeted Circular Economy Directives with clear targets comparable to energy directives (REDII) Simplification and harmonization of End-of-Waste More harmonisation of regulation in the EU Free trade of secondary resources for recycling with tracing and tracking system and obligatory, proven recycling Cross-sector collaboration and industrial symbiosis encouraged by ad-hoc regulatory

framework that supports **long-term binding agreements** with industry and stable **public-private partnerships** 

Adapted from IWA Resource Recovery Conference and SMART-Plant final event – Venice (Italy) 2019









- **15:15 Nutrient recovery in CS2**: KWR expertise in Nutrient recovery and conceptual presentation of Nutrient recovery in CS2 Tavishi Guleria and Nienke Koeman (KWR)
- **15:30 Nutrient recovery in CS7 Tain**: Recovery of ammonia from distillery wastewater by IEX/packed columns after AnMBR *Mark Pidou (Cranfield University)*
- **15:45 Smart Plant:** bio-based fertilizer recovery from wastewater and sewage sludge *Sergio Ponsa (Beta/UVIC)*
- **16:05 Next Gen:** Full-scale nutrient recovery via struvite and ammonium sulfate production at a municipal wastewater treatment plant *Jonas Schneider (NextGen)*
- **16:25 Run4Life:** current results and exploitation pathways *Nicolas Morales (AQUALIA)*
- **16:45 Conclusions** and future interactions with ULTIMATE *Francesco Fatone (UNIVPM)*

10



#### WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

## **CS2 – Nutrient Recovery**

Tavishi Guleria (KWR) and Nienke Koeman-Stein (KWR)

17<sup>th</sup> December 2020





#### REUSE WATER

Recover, refine & reuse wastewater from industries & municipalities

#### EXPLOIT ENERGY

Extract & exploit energy, combined water-energy management, waterenabled heat transfer, storage & recovery RECOVER MATERIALS Nutrient mining & reuse, extraction & reuse of high-added value exploitable compounds

"Water Smart

Industrial Symbiosis"

#### 9 DEMOSITES

ULTIMATE will implement Water Smart Industrial Symbiosis in nine large-scale business cases from the international agro-food, petrochemical and biotech sector.

- ① 1- Tarragona (ES)
  ② 2- Nieuw Prinsenland (NL)
- ⊕ 3- Rosignano (IT)
- ④ 4- Nafplio (EL)

⊙ 5- Lleida (ES), Ostrava (CZ)
 ⊙ 6- Karmiel, Shafdan (IL)

⊙ 7- Tain (UK)

8- Saint-Maurice l'Exil (FR)
 9- Kalundborg (DK)





### Horticulture – Industry symbiosis

- Greenhouse development in the Netherlands
- Builds upon existing symbiosis and collaborations
- Project partners involved







The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



### **Fate of Nutrients**

- Pesticides and pathogens removed with advanced treatment
  reclaimed greenhouse wastewater will contain valuable nutrients
- Effects of nutrient composition in the reused water on plant growth and health (e.g. Na/K ratio) will be assessed in the demo-greenhouse.
- Optimum nutrient balance and prevent the accumulation of specific minerals (B, Cu, etc.)
- Economic analysis of potential cost savings by using recovered nutrients







### **Timeline**

S = =	Coop Study 2					2020	)				2021													2022									
5.110.	Case study 2		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3 10	4	5	6 13	7	8	9	10 17	11	12	1 20	2	3	4	5 24	6 25	7					
1	Defining the case study and demonstration site	KWR	1			-		Ū		U	5	10	11	12	15	14	15	10	1/	10		20	21		23	24	2						
2	Detailed literature review of technologies for greenhouse drainwater reuse	KWR																															
3	Proposed pilot site baseline (data collection)	KWR																															
4	Definition of workplan (MS5)	KWR																															
5	Designing an experimental plan and setting up laboratory equipment	KWR																															
6	Bench scale experiments and system optimization	KWR																															
7	Assessment of achieved reuse safety (water quality and microbiological)	KWR																															
8	Selection and scaling up the technology to pilot scale and site adaptation (MS9)	KWR																															
9	Designing prototype for construction	KWR																															
10	Prototype installation at the pilot site	KWR																															
11	Operating the prototype technology at the pilot site, data collection, data analysis and	KWR																															
12	Pilot monitoring, results, follow-up and scenario comparison (MS19)	KWR																															



### **KWR and Nutrient Recovery**

- Nutrient recovery as part of resource recovery
- Resource recovery from drinking water production
- In cooperation with Aqua Minerals → company that sells resources from water and wasewater
- Calcite in face scrub
- Ferric (hydr)oxide pellets for removal of sulphur from (bio)gas, phosphorus from (surface) water and arsenic from (ground)water





NAIF

700.1



### **KWR and Nutrient Recovery**

- Nutrients from wastewater
- Metals: heavy metals are rare earth metals from fly ash
- Biogas from slaughterhouse wastewater

- Core project:
- Liquid fertilizer production







### **KWR and Nutrient Recovery**

Resources from drinking water production and industry for application in wastewater treatment

• Spent powdered activated carbon from industrial use for OMP removal from WWTP effluent

Reuse of greenhouse drain in greenhouses: project in Nieuw Prinsenland to determine theoretical safety of reuse: microbiological and pesticides

Reuse of municipal effluent for greenhouses: treatment for upcycling, regulations, risk analysis and monitoring throughout the whole chain for responsible reuse: from WWTP to greenhouse to table





#### **Thank You!**

Tavishi Guleria Tavishi.Guleria@kwrwater.nl

+31 30 606 9627

Nienke Koeman-Stein Nienke.Koeman@kwrwater.nl

+31 30 606 9558











WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# CS7 – Tain (Glenmorangie distillery)



Meeting: December, 17<sup>th</sup> 2020



### **Treatment systems**









COD (mg/L)	656 (316 – 1454)
SS (mg/L)	3 (0 – 18)
NH <sub>4</sub> -N (mg/L)	797 (329 – 1349)
NO <sub>3</sub> -N (mg/L)	5 (4 – 8)
PO <sub>4</sub> -P (mg/L)	252 (152 – 343)
рΗ	7.2 (6.4 - 8.0)

Ammonia removal and recovery:

- Stripping
- Precipitation
- Ion exchange



- Established technology
- Large footprint
- Energy intensive



### **Precipitation - Struvite**









The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

Supply chain of media -



### Trials

Internal milestones: water recovery		2020						2021										2022											2023												2	2024					
		7	8	9	9 10	) 1:	1 12	2	1 2	2 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 1	.2 1		2 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5
		2	3	2	4 5	5 (	6	7	8 9	9 10	11	12	13	14	15	16	i 17	18	19	20	21	22 2	23 2	24	25	26	27	28	29	30 3	1 32	2 33	3 34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
Wastewater characterisation																																															
Lab to smale pilot scall trials																																															
Demo unit design																																															
Demo unit build																																															
Demo unit commisioning																																															
Demo unit peration																																															

(1) Preliminary work: determine the optimum ammonia removal and recovery technology for distillery wastewater:

- Impact of ammonia concentration on system efficiency
- Impact of operational conditions (pH, temperature, foreign compounds, ...)
- Product quality and quantity
- Chemical use => OPEX
- (2) Design and construction
- (3) Demonstration of integrated system at the distillery





#### WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

## Thank you!



### H2020 ULTIMATE seminar: Nutrient and biobased fertilizer recovery within H2020 SMAF Plant project

Speaker: Sergio Ponsá – BETA Tech. Centre

sergio.ponsa@uvic.cat

Proud Partner of SMART Plant project







Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union





H2020-SC2-RUR-08B-2019 BBF and

TMF from animal manure (Coordinator)



H2020-SC5-Water1b-2015 BBF production



ENI-CBC-MED-2018 Community composting for OFMSW recycling (Coordinator)









H2020-CE-SPIRE-07-2020. Nutrient recovery and BBF and biostimulants production from food industries (WP Leader)



#### Biodiversitat, Ecologia, Tecnologia Ambiental i Alimentària

# REIFLOW

H2020-MSCA-ETN-2018 (2 ESR Fellows). P-Recovery and BBF production from dairy industries (WP Leader)

### Sea2Land

H2020-SC2-RUR-08C-2020 BBF and TMF from fisheries and aquaculture. (WP Leader)



www.smart-plant.eu Start: 01/Jun/2016 - End: 31/May/2020





### Nutrient recovery within SMART Plant





### SMARTech 2b: mainstream SCEPPHAR



Biodiversitat, Ecologia,

Tecnologia Ambiental i Alimentària



screen & grit

primary clarifier

#### SMARTech 3: IEX sand



**Unique Selling Points** 

(< 5 mg N/L and < 0.5 mg P/L)

B High recovery rates: up to 97% of

ammonia and 95% of phosphorus

concentrations

by removing NH,\* and PO,3 to very low

# CALCIUM PHOSPHATE Achieves tight nutrient discharge limits

- High quality products which can be used in the chemical and fertilize industry
  - Multiple use and recovery c regenerants leading to an e feasibility of the IEX technolo, wastewater industry



activated sludge tank

secondary clarifier







sand

return

mixed shidge

gravity thickener

### SMARTech 4a: SCENA

92% of P removal and recovery through P rich biomass. Dewatered SCENA sludge contains up to 5% (d.b) phosphorus



#### Unique Selling Points

- A Low-energy nutrient removal from sludge liquor
- Biological N and P elimination without chemicals or external carbon source
- C Stable and robust operation compared to other biological processes
- P-rich sludge can be valorized as organic fertilizer



Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union





fermenter

primary clarifier

return load

activated sludge tank

secondary clarifier

**SCENA** 

Also suitable for liquor

after

treatment

thermal

hydrolysis



### SMARTech 5: sidestream SCEPPHAR



Tecnologia Ambiental i Alimentària



### Downstream SMARTechB



Tecnologia Ambiental i Alimentària



### Quality of SMART BBF/fertilising products

• In terms of:

gronomic test in pot

- Safety of products:
  - Heavy metals
  - Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons





- polluting molecules)
- mending antibiotics, pesticides, and
- estrogens) (15 substances included in 2018 EU
- watch-list).









### Agronomic value: agronomic test in pot



Shoot biomass (dry) rich achieved with Ρ sludge and Ρ rich **compost** equal to positive Effective control. for plant growth.

- + Control (TSP + agricultural digestate)
- Struvite (from different SMARTechs + commercial)
- CaPO<sub>4</sub> (SMARTech 3, IEX)
- P-rich sludge (SMARTech 4A, SCENA)
  - P rich compost (Downstream SMARTech B)

Plant phosphorus efficiency achieved with P rich sludge and P rich compost equal to positive control. Efficient source of P.

Beta Biodiversitat, Ecologia, Tecnologia Ambiental i Alimentària



# Safety of fertilising products: emerging pollutants

- Sum of 16 PAH:
  - None of the products exceeds the most stringent value established in different EU regulations (3 mg PAH/ kgTS)
- Pesticides:
  - 6 pesticides detected out of 108, only in CaPO4 and struvite
  - Values slightly higher than the most restrictive values of the maximum residue level tolerated in food (Reg. EC 396/2005)
- PPCP:
  - **5 PPCPs quantified** out of 15: Clarithromycin, Azythromycin, Ciprofloxacin, Imidacloprid, Estrone.
  - Lower PPCP concentrations in mineral fertilisers compared to organic fertilisers
  - **Dynamic composting** is able to **reduce PPCP** concentration in sludge









#### Safety of fertilising products: Heavy metals Regulation 2019/1009 \*\*86 / 278 / CEE Use of sludge in agriculture

SMART Product	SMARTech	Fertilising product	Catego
Struvite	SMARTech 2b (SCEPPHAR) & SMARTech 5	Solid mineral, P as sole primary macronutrient	PFC 1 (C)
Ammonia solution	SMARTech 3 (IEX)	Liquid mineral, N as sole primary macronutrient	STREET
Calcium phosphate	SMARTech 3 (IEX)	Solid mineral, P as sole primary macronutrient	PFC 1 (C)
P rich sludge	SMARTech 4A (SCENA)	Solid organic, NP as primary macronutrients	**
P rich compost	Downstream SMARTechB	Solid organic, NP as primary macronutrients	PFC 1 or PFC 3
Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union	Biodiversitat Ecologia		13

Biodiversitat, Ecologia,

Tecnologia Ambiental i Alimentària


Scale-up of low-carbon footprint material recovery techniques in existing wastewater treatment plants "SMART-Plant"

## Regulatory barriers for SMART recovered nutrients

- Sewage sludge is not included as input material for compost in fertilising products European regulation (2019/1009 and previous 2003/2003)
- Although, its inclusion was proposed in the end-of-waste criteria for biodegradable waste subjected to biological treatment

CMC 3: COMPOST

- An EU fertilising product may contain compost obtained through aerobic composting of exclusively one or more of the following input materials:
  - (a) bio-waste within the meaning of Directive 2008/98/EC resulting from separate bio-waste collection at source,
  - (b) derived products referred to in Article 32 of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 for which the end point in the manufacturing chain has been determined in accordance with the third subparagraph of Article 5(2) of that Regulation;
  - (c) living or dead organisms or parts thereof, which are unprocessed or processed only by manual, mechanical or gravitational means, by dissolution in water, by flotation, by extraction with water, by steam distillation or by heating solely to remove water, or which are extracted from air by any means, except:
    - the organic fraction of mixed municipal household waste separated through mechanical, physicochemical, biological and/or manual treatment,
  - sewage sludge, industrial sludge or dredging sludge, and
  - animal by-products or derived products falling within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 for which
    no end point in the manufacturing chain has been determined in accordance with the third subparagraph of
    Article 5(2) of that Regulation;
  - (d) composting additives which are necessary to improve the process performance or the environmental performance of the composting process provided that:
    - (i) the additive is registered pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (<sup>3</sup>), with a dossier containing:
    - the information provided for by Annexes VI, VII and VIII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, and

# European fertilising products regulation 2019/1009









Scale-up of low-carbon footprint material recovery techniques in existing wastewater treatment plants "SMART-Plant"

# Barriers for SMART recovered BBF

- Market competition:
  - Fossil fertilising products
  - Cost of current mineral fertilisers
  - Manure based fertilising products



# **Opportunities for SMART recovered BBF**

- Opportunity for decentralised production (near of the end-users)
- WWTP turning into biorefineries → added value production/crossing value chains
- Renewable and sustainable
- Job opportunities
- Upgrading to tailor made fertilisers (reducing heterogeneity, improving delivery, etc)









Supported by the Framework Programme

Scale-up of low-carbon footprint material recovery techniques in existing wastewater treatment plants "SMART-Plant"

# Comparative economic study

Horizotounde the grant agreement (4600323 Sustainable Sustainable Single Sustainable Single Sustainable Single Sustainable Single Sustainable Sustainable Single Sustainable Single Sustainable		Í	
SMART-Plant SMART biofertilizer	Compost from conventional sludge	Compost from MSW	Manure compost
>5%N >5%P >1%K	1.4-2.7%N 0.4-0.9% P	1.5- 2.1%N 0.6-0.9%P	2- 2.5%N 2-2.5%P 2-2.5%K
100- 160 kwh/t <sub>sludge</sub>		160-250 kwh/t <sub>ofmsw</sub>	





Biodiversitat, Ecologia, Tecnologia Ambiental i Alimentària



Scale-up of low-carbon footprint material recovery techniques in existing wastewater treatment plants "SMART-Plant"

# H2020 ULTIMATE seminar: Nutrient and biobased fortilizer recovery within H2020 SMAF Plant project





Speaker: Sergio Ponsá – BETA Tech. Center

sergio.ponsa@uvic.cat

Proud Partner of SMART Plant project







Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union



# **#1. Braunschweig** Germany

**Circular solutions for** 

#### **Relevant data**

WWTP (actual load: 350,000 PE)

#### **Relevant sectors**



Water treatment



Horticulture



**Materials** 

Energy

### **Other partner:**





Energy





# **1. Objectives of the NextGen solutions**





three full-scale one-stage digesters

#### **NextGen solution implemented in the sludge treatment:**

- Two-stage digestion system
- Thermal pressure hydrolysis (TPH) between the two stages
- System for struvite precipitation 3.
- 4. System for ammonium sulfate production

### **Benefits of thermal pressure hydrolysis:**

- Higher methane yield in second digestion stage
- Improved dewatering process of digested sludge
- Increase in dissolved phosphate and ammonium concentration



2



### 2. New NextGen solutions: Two-stage digestion system and TPH







# 2. New NextGen solutions: struvite production











### 2. New NextGen solution: Ammonium sulphate production







### Up to 25% increase in methane production rate during TPH operation







Organic loading rate ranges mainly between 1 and 3 kg DM/(m<sup>3</sup>\*d) → Increase in methane production rate due to TPH





#### Full-scale nutrient recovery

#### **GOAL: Phosphorus recovery**



 $\rightarrow$  Recovery rate is still too low: crystal size is too small



unn



A),SO

NH<sub>3</sub> stripping unit

 $\rightarrow$  Optimization in order to save energy and chemicals



# 4. Lessons learned so far

#### • Thermal pressure hydrolysis:

- High-maintenance product
- Constant high gas quality for steam generator -> avoiding higher fluctuations of system pressure (< 20 – 30 mbar)</li>

### Struvite precipitation

- Very low concentration of suspended solids in process water needed (TSS < 600 mg/L)</li>
- Long commissioning time for increasing particle size > 3 mm

### Ammonium sulfate production

- Well-established + fail-safe technique
- Very high recovery rates possible: **up to 98%**

### System control

• Interaction of single technical units complex -> to be considered in system design



# 5. Outlook



#### **Struvite production:**

Optimization of production process aiming at the increase in grain size and a high P recovery rate via changes in hydrozyclone geometry, different  $MgCl_2$  dosages, varying HRT

### **Ammonium sulfate solution production:**

Optimization of production process aiming at a high N recovery rate and low energy and chemicals consumption ( $\rightarrow$  varying temperature & NaOH addition)

#### Heat management:

Analysis of internal heat management for TPH & two stage digestion system



# Thank you!

# Run4Life project. Current results and exploitation pathways



#### Nicolás Morales Pereira

Run4Life Project Manager





The Run4Life project receives funding from the EU Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme, under G.A. No 730285.





### Context

- Global demand for food  $\uparrow$
- Global demand for fertilisers  $\uparrow$
- Phosphorus: not renewable, localised reserves
- Nitrogen: "Fertilizer from air" but highly energy demanding

### Nutrients in wastewater (WW)

A potential pollutant – and important **resource** currently not exploited in the conventional, centralised and linear approach based in the **old concept of Cloaca Maxima** 



(per person and year)





Run4Life: decentralised resource recovery at the source

- 1. Separation at source
  - Black water (BW), kitchen waste (KW) and grey water (GW)
- 2. Technological innovations and new business models.
- 3. Break barriers to implementation: market uptake, and social and legal acceptance























#### Nieuwe Dokken - Ghent, Belgium (1200 p.e.)







>400 Housing units+ City complex (schools, sports infrastructure etc.)





#### CEIP Nieuwe Dokken - Ghent, Belgium (1200 p.e.) **Clean Energy** DuCoop **Innovative Projects** FASE 2 FASE 1 FASE 3 FASE 4 2021 2019 2024 ZERO WASTEWATER WITH RECOVERY OF **ENERGY & NUTRIENTS (ZAWENT) Basement of FASE 1** cation Denitrification Greywater Sludge buffer buffer tank 2/3 process heat Christeyns UASB system Chemics 2500 MWh wasteheat Storage 1/3 from 30.000 m<sup>s</sup> water Conditioning wastewater Tank 1.500kg green fertilizer Black water Aerobic MBR buffer



#### Nieuwe Dokken - Ghent, Belgium (1200 p.e.)









#### **Exploitation: Cooperative business model**

#### Nieuwe Dokken - Ghent, Belgium (1200 p.e.)



#### How & why a cooperative legal entity?

- > **Cooperation** with citizen participation allow for:
  - Flexible capital
  - Legal limit of 6% IRR
  - Securing fair price setting





- Financial stimulus for end users (correct use of the systems)
- Governance participation by inhabitants
  - Representation in Board and General Assembly
  - Voting right in General Assembly
  - Strong involvement / ambassadors





### Oceanhamnen (H+) - Helsingborg, Sweden (1800 p.e.) 🜏 🦳

- Innovative waste and wastewater management system.
- Around 320 apartments and several office buildings





Local treatment system

- <u>Reco Lab</u>: Recovery laboratory, test-bed facility
- facility • Educational showroom





#### **Demo sites and technologies**

### Oceanhamnen (H+) - Helsingborg, Sweden (1800 p.e.) 🜏 🦳







### Oceanhamnen (H+) - Helsingborg, Sweden (1800 p.e.) 🜏 🥂

# **NPK** pellet

- **Dewatered food waste sludge** from anaerobic digester (certified as biofertilizer using national certification system)
- Struvite (EU end of waste classified as a product)
- Ammonium sulphate (EU end of waste classified as a product)
- Commercial potassium chloride

#### Accepted by farmers in Sweden:

- The products are clean (free from heavy metals and organic pollutants)
- **Concentrated** (at least 5% of nitrogen, but preferably up to 20%)
- Spread using conventional equipment









#### **Demo sites and technologies**

Lemmerweg - Sneek, the Netherlands (32 houses)







13

WAGENINGEN

#### **Innovations: ULF Toilets**

- •Normal (gravity sewer) toilets: 4-9 L/flush
- •Conventional vacuum toilets: 0.8-1.5 L/flush
- •ULF vacuum toilets: 0.4-0.7 L/Flush



#### Benefits

-notable water savings
-smaller piping dimensions
-highly concentrated blackwater



> 40 g COD/L





WAGENINGEN

### Innovations: (H)TAD

#### One step for 3 processes (innovation)

- Treatment and biogas production
- Fertiliser production
- Hygienisation

2 main fertiliser streams:

- liquid effluent ٠
- sludge ٠

Most P ends up in the sludge (biomass) Most N and K ends up in the liquid effluent



1es:



**Black Water** C, N, P, K)



ETS

WAGENINGEN



(H)TAD reactor performance:

Parameter	Unit	Reference 35 °C	Desah 70 °C	Desah 60 °C	Desah 55 °C (ongoing)
HRT	d	$11\pm1.0$	$14.9\pm5.0$	$10.9 \pm 1.0$	
OLR	gCOD/L/d	$0.7\pm0.1$	$1.72\pm0.39$	$3.5\pm1.1$	
COD in	gCOD/L	$10.1\pm1.8$	$23.7 \pm 2.0$	41.7 $\pm$ 9.3	Ongoing
COD <sub>T</sub> Removal	%	79.1 $\pm$ 4.9	42.2 $\pm$ 14.8	56.5 $\pm$ 17.9	
Methanization	% of COD <sub>rem</sub>	87.3 $\pm$ 16.4	41.4 $\pm$ 12.3	51.9 $\pm$ 17.6	

- COD removal and methanization increase with decreasing T
- The balance between hygenisation and methane production seems to be around 55°C. (up to 80 % methanization at lab scale).





16

(H)TAD reactor performance:

### **Fertiliser Production**

Reference

	Influent	Effluent	Influent	Effluent	
	(35°C)	(35°C)	(60°C)	(60°C)	
Total N (g/L)	1.4	1.3	3.8	2.9	
NH4-N (g/L)	0.8	1.1	1.5	1.8	
Total P (mg/L)	120	96	960	340	
PO4-P (mg/L)	101	89	420	164	
CARBA (CFU)	0.9	0.03	Not Detected	Not Detected	
TBX E.coli (CFU)	5.9	3.6	5.5	Not Detected	
ESBL (CFU)	3.9	1.2	3.9	Not Detected	





desa

Run4Life

17

#### Full scale installations for decentralised sanitation and resource recovery

#### Niche market cases:

- New build districts
- High rise buildings
- Sustainable resorts
- Areas with no sewer connection / no capacity for increased sewage flow
- ULF Toilet useful if technology downstream take profit from the ultra concentration of blackwater → Recovery of energy/nutrients





Horizon 2020, GA 730285.

WAGENINGEN

#### **Demo sites and technologies**

#### Porto do Molle Business Centre - Vigo, Spain (250 people)






#### Porto do Molle Business Centre - Vigo, Spain (250 people)





#### AnMBR treating BW at room temperatura (25 °C).

Flow: $0.8-1.5 \text{ m}^3/\text{d}$ Stable operation:8-10 LMHCOD BW inlet: $1425 \pm 823 \text{ mg/L}$ COD removal:94 %

Steady state biogas production  $\approx 0.25 \text{ m}^3/\text{d}$ Methane  $\approx 73\%$ .



Parameter	Blackwater	Treated water
Total P (mg/L)	20 ± 10	17 ± 5
N-NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> (mg/L)	115 ± 40	130 ± 45
Total N (mg/L)	190 ± 70	195 ± 90
Potassium (mg/L)	120 ± 30	110 ± 30
рН	7.3 ± 0.3	7.15 ± 0.15
Alcalinity (mg IC/L)	133 ± 47	117 ± 30





### **Exploitation**

#### Anaerobic Membrane Bioreactor AnMBR









#### Innovations: Nitrogen recovery with BioElectrochemical Systems (BES)



Operating as MEC in a 5 d batch

- Recovering up to 61% of initial N present in BW (1 g N/L)
- Rate of 12.8 g N/m<sup>2</sup>/d





#### Innovations: Nitrogen recovery with BioElectrochemical Systems (BES)

	IN-NH₄' removal ■N-     In-NH₄' removal ■N-     In-     In-	NH₄⁺ recovery ≈40-50% recovery acid trap fertilizer	% N y in the o as liquid
	Reference MEC in literature	Run4Life MEC system	ίπ.Τ
Applied potential (V)	0.6-2.12 <sup>1,2</sup>	0.2	
Current density (A/m <sup>2</sup> )	1.89-30 <sup>1,2</sup>	2.78	
N-NH₄ <sup>+</sup> removal efficiency (%)	34.3-51 <sup>1</sup>	81	
N-NH4 <sup>+</sup> recovery efficiency (%)	79-94 <sup>2</sup>	60	
Energy consumption	6.04-20.5 kWh per kg of nitrogen removed <sup>3,4</sup>	1.61 kWh per kg of nitrogen removed <sup>4</sup>	>50% reduction
		recovered <sup>4</sup>	Tespect SOA





### Pot and field fertilizer tests









Nicolás Morales Pereira Run4Life Project Manager <u>Nicolas.Morales.pereira@fcc.es</u>



Hamse Kjerstadius, Development engineer NSVA <u>hamse.kjerstadius@nsva.se</u>



Miriam van Eekert, Wageningen University <u>miriam.vaneekert@wur.nl</u>



Paraschos Chatzopoulos R&D Process Engineer Desah BV <u>P.Chatzopoulos@desah.nl</u>



Lieven Demolder Clean Energy Innovative Projects CVBA *lieven.demolder@cleanenergyinvest.be* 



Daniel Todt dt@ecomotive.no



Eduard Borràs Camps PhD Senior Researcher. <u>eborras@leitat.org</u>

### www.run4life-project.eu

in www.linkedin.com/in/run4life-project

12020 twitter.com/RUN4LIFE\_H







#### **Annex 6: Presentations – Material recovery**





WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# Online seminar Material recovery and safe reuse

F. Fatone, A. Kleyböcker, S. Casas, A. Naves, C. Bruni

June, 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021

### Ultimate (June 2020 – May 2024) Industry water-utility symbiosis for a smarter water society

- Promotion, establishment and extension of Water Smart Industrial Symbioses
- Development and demonstration of innovative technologies for symbioses
- Assessment of the technologies and development of digital «support tools»
- Development of new business models towards marketability













- **16:10 SLUDGE 4.0:** Thermochemical treatment and down-stream strategies for materials recovery from sewage sludge *Riccardo Gori (UNIFI)*
- **16:25 CASE STUDY 4 & 6:** Recovery of antioxidants and polyphenols from fruit processing and olive mill wastewater *Dimitri lossifidis (GTG)*
- **16:45 CASE STUDY 3:** Use of by-products of local industries for wastewater treatment in Rosignano *Francesco Fatone (UNIVPM) & Francesco Rossi (CPTM)*
- **17:00 SMART PLANT:** Cellulose recovery from municipal wastewater and safe reuse *Marit van Veen (CirTec)*
- **17:20 ROUTES; SMART-Plant; RES-URBIS:** Polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA) recovery from sewage sludge and foodwaste *Mauro Majone (UniRoma)*
- **17:40** Water2REturn: Microalgal Biomass recovery and reuse *Robert Reinhardt (ALGEN)*









#### info@greenerthangreen.co

#### Greener than Green Technologies SA (GtG)

The team

is active in R&D and marketing of disruptive water and wastewater remediation technologies and methodologies for the circular usage of water providing valuable tools for the transition of industries and communities towards a circular economy model, . In cases where high interest and value added compounds are present in the waste, these can be reclaimed, purified and reused, or can be commercially exploited, turning waste into a resource.

Established in 2014, we are start-up company that sprung out of pioneering university research. Our research efforts are funded by private capital as well as EU grants and we continuously seeking synergies in both the industrial and research partners. Since 2019 we are marketing and promoting in Greece and the wider southeastern European area novel and innovative environmental technologies.



# **Case Study 4**



- Fruit processing industry

- Nafplio, Eastern Peloponese, Greece

- High water demand puts pressure in the aquifer

-Seasonality puts strain on the local biological treatment plant

 Under-performing biological treatment plant, leads to higher waste removal cost

Goals

The Unit

Value-added compound extraction

AOP

SBP

## **Case Study 4 Goals**

- Treat individual & final waste streams

 Isolate useful/value-added compounds compounds (properties & market price) e.g. polyphenols, flavonoids, anthocynins etc

Treat wastewater so it can be recycled:
Irrigation of nearby orchards
Reused within the plant for secondary uses or reduce the organic load sufficiently so the biological treatment plant can cope









# **Case Study 4**



- Fruit processing industry

- Nafplio, Eastern Peloponese, Greece

- High water demand puts pressure in the aquifer

-Seasonality puts strain on the local biological treatment plant

 Under-performing biological treatment plant, leads to higher waste removal cost

Goals

The Unit

Value-added compound extraction

AOP

SBP

# Unit Design



The project leading to this application has received funding form the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318  
 PRETREATMENT
 VALUE ADDED. COMPOUND EXTRACTION

 It is adjuitment if is
 Sodimentation

 WASTEWATER TREATMENT
 CIRCULAR USAGE

 Memory Objection
 Similal Biomentation

 Memory Objection
 Similal Biomentatio

**Cross-section** 

P&ID

BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT

# **Unit Cross-section**



# Unit Design



The project leading to this application has received funding form the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318  
 PRETREATMENT
 VALUE ADDED. COMPOUND EXTRACTION

 It is adjuitment if is
 Sodimentation

 WASTEWATER TREATMENT
 CIRCULAR USAGE

 Memory Objection
 Similal Biomentation

 Memory Objection
 Similal Biomentatio

**Cross-section** 

P&ID

BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT

# **Unit P&ID**









# SubCritical Water Extraction (SCWE)

Temperature: 100 - 374°C
Pressure high enough to be in the liquid phase 10-20 bar



Efficiency
Low cost
Non-hazardous - green

### Value-Added Compounds

Polyphenols:
Naturally occurring compounds
Complex structures containing multiple phenolic rings
Two main classes phenolic alcohols, phenolic acids
Further classification depending on the phenolic ring strength (phenolic acids, flavonoids, stiblins, phenolic alcohols, and lignans)

The project leading to this application has received funding form the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318 Examples

Structures

# Structure of polyphenols

# Flavonoids

### Benzoic acids

## Lignans



# Examples of Value-Added Compounds

"Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food" Hippocrates 460-377 BC

Fruit	Compound	Class	Properties & Uses	Price/g*
Orange	Hesperetin	Flavonone	Lowers cholesterols, Anticancer, Favourably favours lipids	
	Naringenin	Flavonone	Antioxidant	€1
	Kaempferol	Lignan	Reducing the risk of chronic diseases, especially cancer	€5.900
Redcurrant	Cyanidin 3-O- glucoside	Anthocyanin	Food colourant	€29
Beetroot	Luteolin	Flavone	Potentials for cancer prevention and therapy	€18.100
	Quercetine	Flavonoid	Anticancer activity	€9.600
Black Chokeberries	Cyanidin 3-O- arabinoside	Anthocyanin	Used as natural colorant	€84.000
Pomegranate	(+)-Catechin	Flavonol	Used in green tea extracts	€22.499
	(+)-Gallocatechin	Flavonol	Antibacterial, Antifungal, Antimalarial, Diuretic, Antiulcer, Xanthine oxidase inhibitor, Antiplasmodic	€150.000
Carot	3,4-Dicaffeoylquinic acid	Phenolic acid	Antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-cancer, DNA protective, Neuroprotective, Hepatoprotective, Anti-influenza viral activity	€374.000

\*Price of analytics standards normalised to 1g



### **Static Adsorption Methodology**

### **Determine most suitable material depending**

- Batch experiment
- Constant volume of wastewater
- Different quantities of adsorbing material
- Sampling at regular intervals



- Maximum adsorption capacity of each material
- Adsorption kinetics how fast
- Modelling of adsorption dynamics

### Static Adsorption Results





The project leading to this application has received funding form the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318 Maximum capacity 22,78 g/kg (g of polyphenol per kg of resin)

Contact time vs Adsorption %60 min95%30 min60%

Yield = 130 g/m3 (mg of polyphenol per L of wastewater)

## **Dynamic Adsorption Methodology**

#### **Determine conditions for optimal recovery**



- Lab simulation of real process
- Continuous process
- Wastewater flows though a packed bed
- Breakthrough curve
- Relationship between contact time and flow rate
- Optimise flow conditions & packed bed design

### **Dynamic Adsorption Results**



- The adsorbent is capable of adsorbing polyphenols for at least 10 regeneration cycles
- 1.7 m^3 wastewater can be treated per kg of resin per cycle




## The CPC photocatalytic reactor



- Continuous flow
- Operates under either solar or artificial light

#### **Degradation of model compound**



## Demonstrated ability to remove 90% of organic pollutants

## **Small Bioreactor Platform**

BioCastle

Patented Technology by BioCastel, Israel

SBPs encapsulate bacteria within a porus membrane Cellulose acetate 0.2 µm pore

The membrane: keeps bacteria safe from predators and other microorganisms • prevents biomass from escaping to the environment

> Problems addressed: Controlling the type of bacteria needed Defining the space they grow Controlling the amount of biomass

SBP is a product of BioCastel, Israel US Patent No. US 8,673,606 Europe Patent No. EP 2421544 (Germany, France, U.K, Nederland, Ireland and Switzerland) Australia Patent No. 2010240486 Israel Patent No. 213072

> The project leading to this application has received funding form the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

Applications

**Benefits** 

ULTIMATE

How does it work

## How does it work



- A 0.2 µm cellulose acetate membrane encapsulates bacteria keeping it safe from predators and preventing biomass to escape
- Water and disolved pollutants migrate trough through the pores and are metabolised by bateria
- After the life cycle of the bacteria, approx. two month, the cellulose acetate membrane devomposes to sugars





## **Small Bioreactor Platform**

BioCastle

Patented Technology by BioCastel, Israel

SBPs encapsulate bacteria within a porus membrane Cellulose acetate 0.2 µm pore

The membrane: keeps bacteria safe from predators and other microorganisms • prevents biomass from escaping to the environment

> Problems addressed: Controlling the type of bacteria needed Defining the space they grow Controlling the amount of biomass

SBP is a product of BioCastel, Israel US Patent No. US 8,673,606 Europe Patent No. EP 2421544 (Germany, France, U.K, Nederland, Ireland and Switzerland) Australia Patent No. 2010240486 Israel Patent No. 213072

> The project leading to this application has received funding form the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

Applications

**Benefits** 

ULTIMATE

How does it work

### **Benefits**

SBP technology addresses certain biological treatment problems:

- Control of bacteria type growth
- Control of space bacteria grow
- Control of amount of bacteria

#### It can be implemented:

- to assist existing biological treatment units to cope with seasonal and unexpected shock load episodes
- to increase capacity with minimal CapEx
- as a small scale standalone solution with out the need of high-cost & extensive infrastructure

Bioreacto

reactor

Bioreactor : Activated

## Applications

Sanitary wastewater treatment examples:

- A20 5500 m3/d
- MBR 2400 m3/d
- AS 500 m3/d

Yield increase up to 15% Increase in biodegradation rate Increase in bioprocess stability

Industrial wastewater treatment:

Food waste 200 m3/d
Winery waste 0.5 m3/d
No need for natural biomass growing and all associated infrastructure
No need for professional manpower for plant operation
No need for waste sludge transporting and associated infastucture

# **Case Study 6**

#### Karmiel, Israel

#### IckNey Yalo Carline Ber Boos Isr and Isr and

Olive oil mill wastewater treatment

Partners: The Galilee Society, MEKOROT, GtG

Olive oil mill wastewater is reach in **polyphenols** which are toxic to bacterial and inhibit aerobic or anaerobic digestion in biological wastewater treatment plants Polyphenol Extraction

Goal

Design

Lab-scale

## Goal

To remove polyphenolic compounds from waste water:

- Low cost unit & process
- Prevent inhibition of anaerobic digestion
- Increase biogas yield
- Commercially exploit polyphenols



## **Polyphenol Extraction**

"Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food" Hippocrates 460-377 BC

- Natural phytochemicals, a major class of semi-water-soluble compounds with one or more benzene rings that are generally found as glycosides
- Polyphenols from olives and grapes are probably the most studied





**3-Hydroxy tyrosol** 

Sorbents

## Oleocanthal

Market value: €1620/g



#### **Properties:**

- Antioxidant
- Anti-inflammatory
- Anti-cancer
- Reduce risk of AD
- Reduce risk of heart disease

## Oleuropein

Market value: €7.240/g



## **3-Hydroxy tyrosol**

Market value: €7.240/g



#### **Properties:**

- Antioxidant
- Anti-inflammatory
- Anti-cancer
- Protects skin & eyes
- Protection from pathogens



#### Design EX1 (Hot H<sub>2</sub>O) EX2 (MeOH) Sorbent Proportioning valve WASTE Flow Pressure UV Sensor UV Sensor Sensor Sensor Sample COLLECTED The project leading to this application has received funding form the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



# **Extraction**





# Use of by-products of local industries for wastewater treatment in Rosignano

F. Fatone, F. Rossi

June, 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021







Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318





## **ULTIMATE Solutions**



- 1. Equalization
- 2. Coagulation/flocculation
- 3. Sedimentation
- 4. Sand filtration
- 5. Biological activated carbon
- 6. Activated carbon filtration

#### **ULTIMATE SOLUTIONS**

The possibility to re-use the chemical (alum/ferric) sludge from coagulation/flocculation in the WWRP will be analysed and potential users will (potentially) be identified via the Alu Circles initiative.

✓ A pilot scale adsorption system will be tested with alternative sludge-biowaste-originated GAC.

✓ Mineral by-products will be used as alternative coagulants and/or adsorbent.

Possible residual disinfectant agents will be tested in order to improve disinfection.



4

# Possibility to re-use the chemical (alum/ferric) sludge and potential users identified via the Alu Circles initiative

The ALU Circles initiative (https://www.alliedwaters.com/project/alucircles/) is addressing the challenge to convert the alum sludge from one-off use of material into a sustainable solution, such as upcycling or recycling, at a lower cost.

#### **PLANNED ACTIVITIES**

- 1. Mass flow analysis : Production of Al/Fe sludge in Italy and contacts with major water utilities (problem owners)
- 2. Fate of the Al/Fe sludge: Current disposal/reuse routes and related costs
- 3. Characterization of AI/Fe sludge: Physical-chemical parameters
- 4. Preliminary assessment of possible applications: absorbents/coagulants in wastewater treatmnent, geotechnical, geoenvironmental and building sectors
- 5. Experimental tests: Mechanical properties in construction materials / removal efficiencies in tertiary wastewater treatment
- 6. Local and regional impact by LCA and LCC of the most promising solutions



5



THE UNIVERSITY

AUSTRALIA



## A pilot scale adsorption system will be tested with alternative GAC.





	Bigger columns	Smaller columns
Numbers	4	2
Volume (m3)	0.6	0.11
Diameter (m)	0.8	0.32
Material (kg)	325	60

0





0

0-07



## A pilot scale adsorption system will be tested with alternative GAC.

#### **ULTIMATE INNOVATIONS**

 $\checkmark$  Monitoring system  $\rightarrow$  sensors and probes

Influent and effluent from the pilot will be monitored with:

- Conductivity
- pH
- UV/Vis (COD, BOD5 and TOC)
- Fluorescence





ID	INSTRUMENTS	Q. ty	Position	Characteristics
PT-01:08	Pressure transmitter	12	Influent and effluent from each column	0 – 1 bar
F-02:05	Electromagnetic water meter	6	Effluent from each column	0 – 10 m3/h
C-02:05	Insertion inductive conductivity digital probe	6	Effluent from each column	250 μS - 2,5 S/cm
S-01:02	pH meter	2	Influent and effluent	pH:0-14; T=-5° C - 50° C
S-03:04	UV/Vis meter (254 nm)	2	Influent and effluent	Measuring cell: 5 mm Measuring range: 0.1- 600.0 m-1 Calibrable on the COD and TOC parameters Compensation: 550 nm Cleaning system: automatic by wiper Measuring interval:> 1 min
S-05:06	Fluorimeter	2	Influent and effluent	filter band for wavelengths centered on ex/em 345/440 nm
S-07	Conductivity meter	1	Influent	250 μS - 2,5 S/cm
F-01	Electromagnetic water meter	1	Influent	0 – 50 m3/h



#### ✓ Innovative material as adsorbents → EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS ONGOING!





#### Mineral by-products will be used as alternative coagulants and/or adsorbent



In the past 140 t per year of aluminium polychloride, and 12 t per year of polyelectrolyte were used. At the moment no reagent is used, and some mixers needs revamping



ULTIMATE will test and assess the possibility of using industrial by-products EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS ONGOING

COAGULATION/FLOC CULATION UNIT	Rapid mixing (coagulation)	Medium agitation (primary flocculation)	Slow mixing (secondary flocculation)
Number of tanks	2	2	2
Volume (m3)	5.73	73	72







## Characterization of the water sample collected in May 2021

Sample was collected at Aretusa plant before the final GAC stage in order to find a higher COD concentration.

Measured values are compared with the average, minimum and maximum from historical data, and with the Aretusa specification.

		Average	Min	Max	Measured	Aretusa-Solvay contractual constraint
рН	-	7.6	7.0	7.9	7.7	
Electrical conductivity	μS/cm	2580	1010	7340	2134	1030
CI-	mg/l	568	159	2079	398	400
NO3	mg NO3/I	57	8	128	45	
PO4	mg PO4/I	/	5	15	10	
SO4	mg/l	/	100	150	132	
Ca	mg/l	/	140	180	145	
Mg	mg/l	/	45	60	54	
Κ	mg/l	/	13	18	17	
Na	mg/l	/	225	305	232	
COD	mg O2/I	25	10	88	20	10









## Adsorbent materials for COD removal



Bentonite OC by-product "Scarto centrifuga" – LAV1

This **by-product** comes from **Laviosa Chimica Mineraria SpA** plant (located about 30 km from Aretusa).

Laviosa activities consists in extracting, processing and distributing industrial mineral products, in particular bentonitic products and special 'modified' bentonitic products called "Organo-clay".

From the necessary purification stages in the organo-clay production process comes this 'grit' that is poor in bentonite but rich in zeolite and other silicates: it comes from a decanter separation and looks like a semi solid sludge.



#### **Technical specifications**

Le analisi effettuate di diffrazione ai raggi X dimostrano che la fase più abbondante risulta guella zeolitica e le altre fasi sono silicate quali calcite, plagioclasio, miche ed altri riportati nella tabella sottostante:

	Fase	Quantità [%]
	Zeoliti	33
A CONTRACT OF	Calcite	28
RD	Plagioclasio	15
	Quarzo	10
	Mica	8
	K-feldspato	6

L'umidità risulta mediamente del 35 % in massa e la perdita alla calcinazione del 11.67 %.

La composizione degli ossidi invece risulta come nella seguente tabella:

	Analita	Quantità [%]
	Na <sub>2</sub> O	1,80
	MgO	0,86
	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	11,75
Oxides	SiO <sub>2</sub>	59,05
	P2Os	0,35
composition	K:0	2,76
	CaO	9,85
	TiO <sub>2</sub>	0,30
	MnO	0.40
	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1,22





# $\diamond$

## **Adsorbent materials for COD removal**

#### Activated Hydro-char from municipal sewage sludge

**Hydrochar** (HC) was supplied by the **Spanish company Ingelia SL**: this biocarbon is the product of a **Hydrothermal Carbonization (HTC)** process which, operating at relatively low temperature and pressure conditions in the presence of liquid water, **converts the biomass or municipal sewage sludge, in a carbonaceous solid (bio-lignite).** 

Operating on small quantities, in CPTM laboratory, the **HC was activated** in order to be tested as an adsorbent material. **The activation procedures**, suggested by the scientific literature, **were physical (thermal) and chemical**.









## Adsorbent materials for COD removal Activated Hydro-char from municipal sewage sludge

#### Physical activation – ATT1

- Heating of the char pellets in a tubular oven up to 700°C (5°C/min) with  $N_2$  purging.
- CO<sub>2</sub> flushing and isotherm for 2 hr.
- Cooling of the tubular furnace in N<sub>2</sub> purging.

#### **Chemical activation – ATT4**

- Impregnation of char pellets in <u>KOH aq. solution</u> (KOH to char ratio: 1:1) at 60°C for 6 hr.
- Drying of the impregnated char at 105°C.
- Heating in a tubular oven up to 600°C (5°C/min), isotherm at 600°C for 1 hr and cooling (5°C/min) with N<sub>2</sub> purging.
- Washing with 1M HCl and demi water (up to pH 7).
- Drying at 105°C until constant weight.

#### **Chemical activation – ATT5**

- Mixing of the char pellets (previously grounded) with <u>KOH in flakes</u> (KOH to char ratio: 1:1).
- Heating in a tubular oven up to 600°C (5°C/min), isotherm at 600°C for 1 hr and cooling (5°C/min) with N<sub>2</sub> purging.
- Washing with 5M HCl and demi water (up to pH 7).
- Drying at 105°C until constant weight.









55% WEIGHT LOSS



## **Adsorbent materials for COD removal**

#### **Commercial activated carbon – CA1**



Review : 6 Date of issue : February, the 1ª 2018

#### **Technical Data Sheet**

#### FILTERCARB GCC 8X30

Granular Activated Carbon obtained from specially selected grades of coconut shell, specially designed to remove pollutants from water, odours and bed tests from beverages like edible oils, wine, beer, ex...

Specification	Units	Values	Methods
BET Surface	m²/g	1100-1150	BET N2
Ash content	%	2-4	CEFIC 1986
Bulk content	g/cm <sup>3</sup>	0,45-0,50	CEFIC 1986
Moisture	%	5	CEFIC 1986
Iodine index	mg/g	1000-1100	CEFIC 1986
CTC	%	55-65	Method on request
Hardness	%	95	Method on request
Chlorine half-length value	cm	3	Method on request
Grain size distribution			Sieving analysis
> 8 mesh (2,36 mm)	%	5	
< 30 mesh (0,60 mm)	%	5	
Uniformity coefficient		max 1.7	

#### STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS







# Adsorbent materials for COD removal

#### Adsorbent materials characterization

#### Leaching test

Test followed the EN 12457-2:2002 for the waste characterization (liquid to solid ratio of 10 L/kg).

Concentrations are expressed as ppm in the leached solution.

- NEED OF PRE-TREATMENT (WASHING) OF THE HC
- FURTHER TEST FOR ADSORPTION IN THE INTEGRATED SYSTEM (ROSIGNANO-CECINA WWTP)

	LAV1	НС	HC ATT1	HC ATT4	HC ATT5
F1	< 0.1	54.2	0.2	0.4	< 0,1
CI-	2,5	44.4	62.5	26.4	1.7
NO3 <sup>-</sup>	0.2	1.3	< 0,1	< 0,1	< 0,1
PO4	3.2	38.5	< 0,1	54.3	8.4
SO4	32.9	147.3	143.9	110.2	103.4
COD	81	4200	< 15	< 15	< 15

	LAV1	HC ATT1	HC ATT4	HC ATT5	CA1
Specific surface area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	6	117	449	752	1100÷1150
Specific pore volume (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	0.003	0.055	0.214	0.359	/
Average pore radius(Å)	50.23	13.61	15.16	16.08	/



**BET** analysis



# $\diamond$

# **Adsorbent materials for COD removal**

### Preliminary adsorption tests with Methylene Blue (MB) solution

MB solutions are commonly used for comparative adsorption tests on activated carbon and they simulate chemical substances with an effective molecular diameter of 15 Å.

The Adsorption capacity  $(q_e)$  is the amount of adsorbate taken up by the adsorbent per unit mass of the adsorbent at equilibrium conditions. It changes with the final equilibrium concentration of the adsorbate in the solution  $(c_e)$  and an 'isotherm curve' can be realized for each material tested.



This is a 'Langmuir isotherm' that describes the most common adsorption mechanism of an activated carbon.





# **Adsorbent materials for COD removal**

#### Preliminary adsorption tests with Methylene Blue (MB) solution

CPTM is currently completing these preliminary tests in order to compare the different adsorbent materials.

#### PRELIMINARY RESULTS >> TEST STILL ONGOING!

	С <sub>е</sub> (mg <sub>мв</sub> /L)	<b>Q<sub>e</sub></b> (g/kg)
LAV1	0.6	11
ATT4	0.1 4.0	305 321
CA1	0.1 0.9	304 383

**LAV1 material** (Bentonite OC by-product by Laviosa) **shows a lower adsorption capacity** compared to the chemically activated HC ATT4 and to the commercial activated carbon.





## **Adsorbent materials for COD removal**

### Adsorption tests with Aretusa water sample (COD reduction) ARETUSA sample $\rightarrow$ COD = $\sim 20 \text{ mgO}_2/\text{L}$ .

#### Kinetic adsorption tests:

Here below an example of two kinetic adsorption curves: the scope of these tests is to evaluate the minimum time necessary to reach the equilibrium state and find the Adsorption capacity (qe) of the material.






# Adsorbent materials for COD removal

#### Adsorption tests with Aretusa water sample (COD reduction)

CPTM is currently completing these preliminary tests in order to compare the different adsorbent materials that can be used for the COD reduction in the Aretusa water.

#### PRELIMINARY RESULTS >> TEST STILL ONGOING!

	C <sub>e</sub> (mgO <sub>2</sub> )/L	<b>Q</b> e (g/kg)
LAV1	16	4.0
ATT4	7 17	19.6 20.0
ATT5	9 15	40.5 40.0

These tests confirmed that **LAV1 material** (Bentonite OC by-product by Laviosa) **shows a lower adsorption capacity compared to the chemically activated HC** ATT4 and ATT5.

**ATT5 shows a better adsorption capacity than ATT4** probably caused by the higher specific surface area previously described (752 and 449 m2/g).







# **Adsorbent materials for COD removal**

**Preliminary conclusions** 

- ✓ Both from the preliminary tests conducted with MB solutions and from those conducted with the real water sample, it can be anticipated that the adsorption capacity of LAV1 is much lower than that of activated HCs and unfortunately does not probably justify its possible use as an adsorbent material.
- ✓ The different activated HCs will be compared with the commercial activated carbon.







# **Softening tests**

HARDNESS (mg <sub>CaCO3</sub> /L)					
Direct measure* Aretusa-Solvay contractual limit					
520 340					
*Direct measure with EDTA complexometric titration					

Hardness overcome the contractual limit requested by SOLVAY

Specific analyses have shown that about 50% of the total hardness is temporary hardness essentially due to Ca(HCO3)2 while the remaining part of 50% is due to the permanent hardness which is mainly composed of chloride, sulphate and nitrate of Mg.

**SOFTENING TECNIQUES**: *lime and the lime-soda ash process.* 

- ✓ "Precotto": granulated limestone rocks only partially calcinated and slacked, with a declared content of  $Ca(OH)_2$  of about 9%.
- ✓ Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> "Soda Solvay® Light" product that resulted to be out of specification.









# $\diamond$

# **Softening tests**

Solvay by-product and OOS were compared to pure laboratory lime and soda ash.

#### Lime process



Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>	Pure product	'Precotto' Solvay
Concentration (mg/L)	583	1074
pH after the reagent addition	10.8	10.5
Final total hardness measured	277	238
Total hardness reduction	46%	54%

#### Lime - Soda ash process











- ✓ Solvay annual production of 'Precotto' and of out-of-spec 'Soda Light' is absolutely sufficient to treat the total Aretusa water output.
- ✓ The preliminary tests conducted shows a very good total hardness reduction.
- ✓ Specific tests will be carried out to optimize the exact dosage of the two reagents and to evaluate the generated sludge amount.







## Thermochemical treatment and downstream strategies for materials recovery from sewage sludge

Massimo Aiello<sup>1</sup>, Sandra Vitolo<sup>2,4</sup>, Monica Puccini<sup>2,4</sup>, Andrea Luca Tasca<sup>2</sup>, Gemma Mannarino<sup>3</sup>, <u>**Riccardo Gori<sup>3,4</sup>**</u>,

<sup>1</sup>ACEA Ambiente s.r.l., <sup>2</sup>Università di Pisa, <sup>3</sup>Università di Firenze, <sup>4</sup>Consorzio Interuniversitario Nazionale per la Scienza e Tecnologia dei Materiali (INSTM),





CS meeting on "Material recovery and safe reuse"





#### **Sludge production in Tuscany**

#### **SLUDGE 4.0 Project:** Conversion of sewage sludge in biofertilizers







## Hydrothermal carbonization (HTC)





## Hydrothermal carbonization (HTC)



1 Untreated sludge



<u>3</u> Slurry

 $\underline{4}$  Hydrochar





<u>5</u> Process water





#### Valorization of HTC's products

- Recovery of hydrochar in agricolture (possible but may be not allowed by the erupean/national laws)
- Recovery of liquid and solid products for the **production of fertilizers**
- Recovery of P and Si









Production of:

- materials adsorbent
- bio-based materials





#### Porous structure formation





## **Design of Experiments (DoE)**

Application of the Design of experiment (DoE) approach to develop an empirical model to be used for the prediction of output variables on the basis of input variables



**Target: Process optimization** 



 $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C} + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A}^2 + \mathbf{B}^2$ 





## Input and output variables

#### Selected input variables

- Temperature (550 750 °C)
- Time of contact (60 240 min)
- KOH : HC ratio (1 3 wt/wt)

#### Selected output variables

- Yield (mass of AH)
- Ash content
- Adsorption capacity

Terbuthylazine was selected as target compounds to evaluat the adsorption capacity. TBA has replaced atrazine as a broad-spectrum herbicide in most of the EU countries, becoming one the most detected compounds in surface and ground waters, coastal and marine areas.





## **Response Surface Method (RSM)**

Central Composite Desig - <i>k</i> · 2 <sup><i>n</i></sup> factorial runs ( <i>k</i> is - 2 · <i>n</i> axial runs - n <sub>c</sub> center runs	n (CCD) consists of s the number of replicates)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
$N = k \cdot 2^n + 2 \cdot n + n_c$	28 runs	8 9 10 11	7 5 6 7
		12	-
		13	
		15	e
	Factorial points	16	6
		17	5
	Center points	18	7
		19	5
	🖈 Axial points	20	-
		21	4
		22	(
		24	6
		25	6
		26	7
		27	e
		28	6

Run	Tempera- ture (°C)	Time (min)	KOH:HC (wt/wt)	
1	750	60	3	
2	550	60	3	
3	750	60	1	
4	550	240	3	
5	550	240	1	
6	750	240	1	
7	650	150	2	
8	750	240	3	
9	550	240	1	
10	650	150	2	
11	750	240	1	
12	550	240	3	
13	750	60	1	
14	750	240	3	
15	650	150	2	
16	650	150	2	
17	550	60	3	
18	750	60	3	
19	550	60	1	
20	550	60	1	
21	650	150	1	
22	550	150	2	
23	650	240	2	
24	650	150	2	
25	650	60	2	
26	750	150	2	
27	650	150	3	
28	650	150	2	



## **SEM analysis**







#### **Yield**



	Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F-value	p-value	
	Block	20,24	1	20,24			
	Model	1272,01	- 9	141,33	130,50	< 0.0001	significant
1	A-Temperature	367,48	1	367,48	339,29	< 0.0001	>
	B-Time	3,25		3,25	3,00	0,1013	
1	C-KOH/HC ratio	767,01	1	767,01	708,19	< 0.0001	$\triangleright$
	АВ	0,9264	1	0,9264	0,8554	0,3680	
	AC	36,63	1	36,63	33,82	< 0.0001	
	A²	6,70	1	6,70	6,18	0,0236	
	B <sup>2</sup>	18,72	1	18,72	17,28	0,0007	
	C <sup>2</sup>	22,82	1	22,82	21,07	0,0003	
	A²B	16,89	1	16,89	15,59	0,0010	
	Residual	18,41	17	1,08			
	Lack of Fit	3,74	5	0,7482	0,6120	0,6930	not significant
	Pure Error	14,67	12	1,22			
	Cor Total	1310,66	27				

Std. Dev.	1,04	R <sup>2</sup>	0,9857
Mean	15,93	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0,9782
C.V. %	6,53	Predicted R <sup>2</sup>	0,8822
		Adeq Precision	39,4085





#### **Results – Ash conten t**



	Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F-value	p-value	
В	ock	39,32	1	39,32			
	odel	397,45	9	44,16	8,63	< 0.0001	significant
A	Temperature	40,14	1	40,14	7.84	0,0123	
	Time	108,93	1	108,93	21,29	0,0002	>
C	KOH/HC ratio	21,02	1	21,02	4,11	0,0587	
	В	1,41	1	1,41	0,2756	0,6064	
Α	c	79,34	1	79,34	15,51	0,0011	
	2	36,78	1	36,78	7,19	0,0158	
B		142,30	1	142,30	27,81	< 0.0001	$\mathbf{>}$
	B	85,30	Ĺ	85,30	16,67	0,0008	
Α	B²	36,90	1	36,90	7,21	0,0156	
	esidual	86,99	17	5,12			
La	ck of Fit	13,29	5	2,66	0,4326	0,8175	not significant
	ure Error	73,70	12	6,14			
С	or Total	523,75	27				

Std. Dev.	2,26	R <sup>2</sup>	0,8204
Mean	20,39	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0,7254
C.V. %	11,09	Predicted R <sup>2</sup>	0,4201
		Adeq Precision	15,5169





#### **Results - Adsorption capacity**



Source	Sum of	df	Mean	F-value	n-value	
Source	Squares	u	Square	i value	pvalue	
Block	18,41	1	18,41			
Model	888,71	6	148,12	48,42	< 0.0001	significant
A-Temperature	665,86	1	665,86	217,68	< 0.0001	
B-Time	10,76	1	10,76	3,52	0,0754	
C-KOH/HC ratio	147,54	1	147,54	48,23	< 0.0001	
АВ	15,43	1	15,43	5,05	0,0361	
вс	15,77	1	15,77	5,16	0,0344	
C²	33,35	1	33,35	10,90	0,0036	
Residual	61,18	20	3,06			
Lack of Fit	29,08	8	3,64	1,36	0,3046	not significant
Pure Error	32,09	12	2,67			
Cor Total	968,30	27				

Std. Dev.	1,75	R <sup>2</sup>	0,9356
Mean	14,86	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0,9163
C.V. %	11,77	Predicted R <sup>2</sup>	0,8710
		Adeq Precision	20,7909









## **SLUDGE MINING project**







Acknowledgements

# Thanks for your attention!



Riccardo Gori – Università di Firenze riccardo.gori@unifi.it

The project SLUDGE 4.0 has been funded by Regione Toscana within the framework of the POR-FESR (2014 – 2020) as a research and development strategic project.





#### Material recovery and safe reuse

Cellulose recovery from sewage



JIRTES

Marit van Veen

CirTec B.V. Nijverheidsweg 26 1442 LD Purmerend www.CirTec.nl

#### About CirTec





Cellulose recovery from sewage



Screening and filtration



Evaporation and scrubbing





Sludge dewatering

Sludge drying



# SMART-Plant

## Recovery and valorisation of cellulose from sewage

#### What is it about?

X 1.000 tonnes







## Dynamic rotating belt finescreens for primary treatment

Saving energy by removing solids





## knowledge development through small and large-scale research SMART-Plant

Impact on dewaterability, denitrification, control, flow distribution, etc









CFD analyses



## Impact of dynamic rotating belt finesieves

Application of dynamic rotating belt fine sieves for primary treatment

- Reduction of energy requirement (15 to 20%);
- Less sludge (20%) = less sludge dewatering;
- Reduction of chemical use (approx. 20%);
- Lower maintenance costs;
- > a marketable recovered raw material;
- $\succ$  Reduction of the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint







Visible reduction of fibers in raw influent



Difference in fiber content in activated sludge (after 12 months)

#### In-line cellulose extraction



Screenings are not salable (too many polluting components)





SMART-Plant: Pilot installation at a capacity of 120 m<sup>3</sup>/h (expected 300 mg/l TSS)



## In-line cellulose extraction

#### Screenings are not salable (too many polluting components)





TSS

COD

BOD

Ntot

PO₄-P

44,80%

21,00%

21,00%

4,10%

3,10%

TSS	198,72	mg/l
COD	477,16	mg/l
BOD	228,31	mg/l
Ntot	35,67	mg/l
PO <sub>4</sub> -P	9,11	mg/l



#### LCA of SMARTech1 - cellulose recovery

System boundaries

Cellvation





#### LCA of SMARTech1 - cellulose recovery

#### System boundaries







## LCA of SMARTech1 - cellulose recovery

#### Conclusions



+400-36,7 0 36,4 +35 0 33,8 031,3 +30 Global warming potential [kg CO2-eq/(pe\*a)] +25 +20 +15 +10+5 +0 -5 Reference STP with with with Cellvation Cellvation Cellvation (min) (max) (mean)

Credits for bio-composite
Infrastructure of Cellvation
Electricity for Cellvation
Sludge incineration
Transport of sludge
Direct emissions at WWTP
Chemicals for WWTP
Electricity for WWTP
NET VALUE



KOMPETENZZENTRUM WasserBerlin



#### **Conclusions**

0







CIR Cellvation

#### **Recell-based products**







Road constructor KWS uses recycled toilet paper to improve asphalt pavement in Amsterdam



A cycling path in Utrecht with asphalt containing Recell<sup>®</sup>!



## Further development Current state of the technology





#### CellCap

two-stage sieving technique consisting of, a cellulose washer and a dynamic rotating belt finesieve.

The pre-separation consists of a fine-meshed drumtype sieve where, through an inventive feedsystem, the cellulose fibers can escape, where hair, leaves, seeds and other components are caught.

Both process components are fully tuned to each other:

- No additional pumping;
- A cellulose washer can easily be fitted in (if space is provided), even when the RBF is already installed.
- The hydraulic profile hardly changes by installing the Cellulose Washer.




*"We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them"* 

- Albert Einstein -

# Towards a cleaner circular future



CirTec B.V. Nijverheidsweg 26 1442 LD Purmerend www.CirTec.nl





### Resource recovery with algae

"Material recovery and safe reuse" Robert Reinhardt



### Hello to the host



ULTIMATE aims to create economic value and increase sustainability by valorising resources within the **water** cycle. Wastewater is not only a reusable resource but also a carrier for energy and components that can be extracted, treated, stored, and reused. Drawing on "Water Smart Industrial Symbiosis" (WSIS) we promote wastewater recycling in various industrial settings. We have selected nine large-scale demonstration cases from the four most important industrial sectors in Europe:







## Water2REturn project

ULTIMATE aims to create economic value and increase sustainabi cycle. Wastewater is not only a reusable resource but also a car extracted, treated, stored, and reused. Drawing on "Water Smar wastewater recycling in various industrial settings. We have selec the four most important industrial sectors in Europe:



wastewater,

... CONTAINED IN INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER.



water

can be

omote

ases from

Extract and exploit materials





# L Water2



# Project Summary

- REcovery and REcycling of nutrients TURNing wasteWATER into addedvalue products for a circular economy in agriculture
- Call: H2020-IND-CE-2016-17
   Type of Action: Innovative Action
   GA no: 730398

   Duration: 57 months (after extension by 15 months)
   Start Date: 01 Jul 2017 End date: 31 Mar 2022
   Estimated Project Cost: 7,13 M€
   Requested EU Contribution: 5,9 M€
   Project Coordinator: BioAzul, Spain

### Water2REturn

- recover and recycle nutrients from slaughterhouse wastewater in the framework of a Circular Economy model;
- recovered nutrients are turned into value added products for the agro-chemical industry, for the agricultural sector;
- solve slaughterhouse wastewater management problem and reduced costs related to water consumption



ULT





### Products

- 3 different raw materials
  - nitrate and phosphate concentrate,
  - hydrolysed sludge
  - algal biomass
- 3 agronomic products:
  - organic fertiliser
  - Bacillus subtillis based biostimulant
  - Algal biomass based biostimulant





### Consortium









# **Consortium & Activities**



Demo design and implementation slaughterhouse wastewater treatment and reuse fermentation process anaerobic digestion and biogas process algal treatment monitoring and control tool Agronomic valorisation agronomic products manufacturing. agronomic products testing and use Environmental, economic, social and risk assessment Market update

Capacity building and awareness raising





### Small test installation Ljubljana





# **Preliminary Sprouting tests**









### Pot tests







### Process









## Water2return









### Present

- On-going agricultural field tests
- LCA & techno-economic analysis
- Workshops August 2021 March 2022

- Nutrient density will limit the logistics
- Biostimulants seem to be successful











# Thank you for attention

Questions

## Where do algae fit?

- More than one option
- Depends on
  - Wastewater
  - Area available
  - Use of algal biomass
  - Legislative requirements











# Nitrogen













### Algaebiogas





ULTIMATE



Algal treatment of biogas digestate and feedstock production

- Eco-Innovation project (CIP-EIP-Eco-Innovation-2012)
- 2013 2016 in Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Pilot and market replication project
- Demo centre has been in operation for 5 years
- Legislation analysis, LCA, business plan
- Complementary technology trials

# Algaebiogas













S/L Separation Anaerobic filter

Digestate color!



### Algaebiogas







)

# Saltgae

- Demonstration project exploring techno-economic options for use of algae to treat saline wastewater from food & beverage industry
- Innovative Action Horizon 2020
- June 2016 September 2019
- Three demo locations
  - Camporosso, Italy (dairy cleaning water)
  - Ljubljana, Slovenia (animal hide warehouse WW KOTO)
  - Arava, Israel (fishery)





# Saltgae









## Saltgae – demo Ljubljana



















### Saltgae – demo Camporosso, Arava, applications



























DUSTRIAL SYMBI

Grant Agreement No 869318

### CS meeting on "Material recovery and safe reuse" June 23, 2021

**ROUTES – SMART-Plant – RES URBIS** 

Polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA) recovery from sewage sludge and food waste

### Mauro Majone

Department of Chemistry

**Research Center for the Protection of the Environment and Cultural Heritage** 



Research and Innovation from 3 EU projects (FP7 and Horizon 2020)



#### Innovative system solutions for municipal sludge treatment and management (ROUTES),

#### FP7 Call: ENV.2010.3.1.1-2

GA 265156, 3 years, started May 1° 2011, 18 partners, 9 countries EU Grant: 3 364 600 € Coordinator: Giuseppe Mininni, IRSA-CNR, Italy



#### Scale-up of low-carbon footprint material recovery techniques

in existing wastewater treatment plants (SMART-Plant) H2020 Call: WATER-1b-2015 - Demonstration/pilot activities (IA) GA 690323, 4 years, started June 1° 2016, 29 partners, 10 countries EU Grant: 7 536 300 €

Coordinator: Francesco Fatone, Technical University of Marche, Italy

www.smart-plant.eu



#### **REsources from URban Blo-waSte (RES URBIS)**

H2020 Call CIRC-05-2016: Unlocking the potential of urban organic waste (RIA) GA 730349, 3 years, started January 1° 2017, 20 partners, 8 countries. EU Grant: 2 996 688 € Coordinator: Mauro Majone, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

#### www.resurbis.eu



#### **3 projects with some common features**

Focusing on "waste" streams as a renewable and largely available resource (no land, no water, no energy is needed to produce it)

Mild biotechnologies basen on **open microbial cultures** (no axenic cultures, no OGMs)

Sludge and municipal wastewater The organic fraction of municipal solid waste Park/garden waste Food-industry wastewater

A large portfolio of bioproducts with market value under investigation (e.g. cellulose, biofuels, biofertilizers, biosolvents, biomethane) and one in common: polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA) and derived bioplastics and biocomposites

#### As time went on, also taking care of

✓ the whole technology chain

✓ territorial conditions

Different industrial sectors to be linked each other, each one having its own business targets, needs and specifications.

Affordable economic strategies to be tailored with respect to territorial <u>clusters</u>, i.e by taking into account present collection and management systems and where available "feedstock " is large enough

✓ <u>technical and non technical</u> <u>constraints</u> Regulatory (e.g. **"end of waste"**), environmental, and social constraints, as function of local, regional and national conditions

#### Why focusing on PHA?

#### **Product related Pro's**

PHA is not a single polymer but a family of copolymers with tunable composition and properties, so that, PHA can be the main constituent of several bioplastics, with a wide portfolio of applications.

Fully and quickly biodegradale



#### Production process Pro's

• A novel PHA production process (open microbial cultures instead of pure strains), which can better cope with large heterogeneity of the waste/wastewater feedstock,

- An upstream step, the *acidogenic fermentation*, which is both robust and tunable
- Overall, PHA production process is mostly **biological, under mild conditions and reliable**.
- Thus, an **easier integration with existing biological plants for waste and wastewater treatment**.
- Combining no-cost feedstock and novel processes, the cost of PHA can significantly decrease

Appealing: PHA is 3 times "Bio"	Applications and economics
<ul> <li>Produced from renewable feestock (<u>but no food</u>)</li> </ul>	High market potential.
- Produced through biological process (but no OGM)	As higher as more PHA cost decreases; but
<ul> <li>Easily and "truly" biodegradable</li> </ul>	<u>still higher value than biogas and compost</u>
and it's not recycled: it's virgin material	Already under investigation at TRL 6
# Comparison of income of PHA production with respect to biogas, as function of PHA value on the market and of biogas incentives

A) PHA
production, biogas
recovery from
downstream with
incentives
B) Biogas only



- PHA value ranging between 500 and 5000 €/ton
- Either 0, 40, or 80 % of residual TVS are recovered into biogas
  Biogas yield 0.75 m<sup>3</sup>/kgTVS; electric energy 2.56 kWh/m<sup>3</sup>
- EE value: 60 €/MWh (no incentives) <u>continuous lines</u>
   246/MWh (present italian incentives, worst case) <u>dotted lines</u>

- In most conditions, PHA production offers an additional income with respect to biogas only (alternative b minus alternative a)
- Competition with biogas is negligible if PHA maintain present high cost and if biogas has no incentives
- <u>However, biogas recovery from PHA production</u> <u>residual streams is especially needed if</u> <u>incentives are high</u>

•The additional income should overcompensate the larger costs for PHA production with respect to biogas only (however, still lack of full scale data)

#### Income only, production costs not included



#### An old story: PHA is often present in activated sludge



#### Typical process for PHA production from MMC and organic waste stream



# Pilot scale optimisation of PHA production process from urban bio-waste

Although the main steps of MMC process are largely validated at lab-scale, pilot scale experimentation is essential for several reasons

#### **Process-related challenges**

- Given the process has many steps, pilot-scale is essential to supply robust technicaleconomic data, especially because cost decrease remains a key target
- Long term experimentation with "true" waste feedstock is needed to address effects of feedstock heterogeneity
- An integrated process is required for optimal management of water/solid overflows and related energy recovery. This is also essential for making appropriate LCA
- The extraction step still requires optimization (as milder conditions as possible)

#### **Product-related challenges**

- PHA batches have to be steadily produced and delivered to investigate downstream processing, including by using industrial equipments (i.e in the range 1-100 Kg/batch).
- Same as for development of novel products, including low-purity end-uses; product samples to be checked for performance and acceptance (e.g. consumers panels).
- Contaminant migration and abatement and possible transfer into the products has to be investigated under close-to reality conditions.



Figure 1 Schematic process flow diagram of municipal wastewater and sludge treatment in conjunction with PHA production under study in the project Routes (MAD = mesophilic anaerobic digestion). Laboratory-scale studies are conducted on BPP, PPP and PRP (La Sapienza University of Rome/AnoxKaldnes), advanced/ primary treatment and sludge fermentation (Italian Water Research Institute IRSA-CNR). Pilot-scale studies are conducted on fermentation, BPP, PPP and PRP (AnoxKaldnes/Veolia) and sludge wet oxidation for producing a VFA-rich liquid stream (3VGreen Eagle). Results from WAS fermentation, BPP, PPP are reported here.

F. Morgan-Sagastume et al. Polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA) production from sludge and municipal wastewater treatment, Water Science & Technology, 69, 1, 177-184, 2014; <u>https://doi.org/10.2166/wst.2013.643</u>

Morgan-Sagastume, F., Valentino, F., Hjort, M. *et al.* Acclimation Process for Enhancing Polyhydroxyalkanoate Accumulation in Activated-Sludge Biomass. *Waste Biomass Valor* **10**, 1065–1082 (2019). https://doi.org/10.1007/s12649-017-0122-8











**Unique Selling Point** of the SMARTechs: high water quality, energy-efficiency, carbon footprint, sludge reduction and...materials recovery and reuse via SMART-Products

Horizon2020 IA

9 demo SMARTechs



### SMARTechs integrated in existing WWTPs (revamped/upgraded to WRRFs)

	SMARTech n.	Integrated municipal WWTP	Key enabling process(es)	SMART-product(s)			
	1	Geestmerambacht (Netherlands)	Upstream dynamic fine- screen and post-processing of cellulosic sludge	Cellulosic sludge, refined clean cellulose			
	2a	Karmiel (Israel)	Mainstream polyurethane- based <b>anaerobic biofilter</b>	Biogas, Energy- efficient water reuse			
	2b	Manresa (Spain)	Mainstream SCEPPHAR	Struvite, PHA			
	3	Cranfield (UK)	Mainstream <b>tertiary hybrid</b> ion exchange	Nutrients			
5	4a ETV	Carbonera (Italy)	Sidestream SCENA	P-rich sludge, VFA			
	4b	Psyttalia (Greece)	Sidestream Thermal hydrolysis – SCENA	P-rich sludge			
5	5	Carbonera (Italy)	Sidestream SCEPPHAR	PHA, struvite, VFA			



ï

# SMARTechs integrated in existing WWTPs (revamped/upgraded to WRRFs)







SMARTech2b and Downstream SMARTech B - Manresa WWTP (Spain)





SMARTech 4a and SMARTech 5 Carbonera WWTP (Italy)







### Sidestream S.C.E.P.P.H.A.R.: Short-Cut Enhanced Phosphorus and PHA recovery (Smartech 5)



Supported by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union

www.smart-plant.eu







Conca et al. Long-term validation of polyhydroxyalkanoates production potential from the sidestream of municipal wastewater treatment plant at pilot scale Chemical Engineering Journal, 390, 124627, 2020, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cej.2020.124627

## Sidestream SCEPPHAR pilot scale (Smartech 5): TRL 5



Pilot plant potential recoveries: 0.7-0.8 kgPHA/day; up to 300 gStruvite/day)

Full scale final projection: PHA 1-1,2 kg per PE per YearStruvite 0,2-0,4 kg PE per Year





SUA POLICE





#### **RES**ources from **UR**ban **BI**o-wa**S**te **RES URBIS**

EN Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2016 - 2017 CIRC-05-2016: Unlocking the potential of urban organic waste Research and Innovation Actions (RIA)

> 3-year project, Jan 2017 – Dec 2019 20 partners, 8 countries around 3 M€ EU support

Project coordinator: M. Majone Research Centre for Protection of Environment and Cultural Heritage University of Rome "La Sapienza", Italy Website: www.resurbis.eu





#### CIRC-05-2016: Unlocking the potential of urban organic waste

In a Circular Economy perspective, turning waste into a resource is an essential part of increasing resource efficiency and closing the loop

More than 70% of Europeans live in cities and urban areas, and produce huge amount of organic waste (**including sludge from wastewater treatment**)

Challenges from the Call which RES URBIS aims at answering to

Can different organic waste streams of urban origin combined into a common valorization chain?

Can <u>bio-based products</u> be obtained from organic waste of urban origin, with a <u>higher economic value than compost and biogas</u>?

Can both targets be fullfilled togheter?

Can the new technological solutions be integrated in the present waste management systems







#### "End of waste" criteria: where and how



#### The definition of "end of waste" criteria is a key step along any way a waste is transformed into a product

## "End-of-waste" status

# Article 6 of the Directive 2008/98/EC, as amended by the new Waste Directive (Brussels, 27 April 2018 (OR. en) 2015/0275 (COD) PE-CONS 11/18)

1. Member states shall take appropriate measures to ensure that waste which has undergone a recycling or other recovery operation is considered to have ceased to be waste if it complies with the following conditions:

(a) the substance or object is to be used for specific purposes;

(b) a market or demand exists for such a substance or object;

(c) the substance or object fulfils the technical requirements for the specific purposes and meets the existing legislation and standards applicable to products; and

(d) the use of the substance or object will not lead to overall adverse environmental or human health impacts.

#### **Analysis of contaminants in PHA samples**

As function of:

- Feedstock
- Stabilization method
- Before/after extraction
- Extraction mehod



## Inorganic elements, including toxic metals >40

Astolfi ML. et al., Chemosphere, 259, 127472, 2020 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2020.127472.

#### Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) 16 compounds

Cavaliere C. et al., Molecules 2021, 26, 539. https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules26030539

#### Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) 21 compounds

Riccardi C. et al. Polymers 2020, 12, 659. https://doi.org/10.3390/polym12030659

Н																	He
Li	Be											В	С	N	0	F	Ne
Na	Mg											AL	Si	Ρ	S	Cl	-Ar
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Со	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Мо	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te		Xe
Cs	Ba	La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	lr	Pt	Au	Hg	TI	РЬ	Bi	Po	At	Rn
Fr	Ra	Ac															
				Ce	Pr	Nd	Ρm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu
				Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr



#### **Summary from analytical results**



- The PHA content of contaminants is generally low, i.e in the range between ppb and a few ppm, but for alkaline and alkaline earth metals (which are of little environmental or health concern)
- The **type of feedstock** affects the contaminant contents:
  - PHA from fruit waste has lower content than PHA from the mixture of organic fraction of municipal waste and sludge from wastewater treatment.
  - commercial PHAs derived from crops have lower concentrations of heavy metals than waste-based PHA, but similar concentrations of PAH and PCB.
- **PHA extraction** also affects the contaminant contents: acid stabilization and extraction with aqueous inorganic extractants generally brings to lower contents than thermal stabilization and extraction with either hypochlorite or chloroform.
- Although a specific regulation does not exist yet, all tested PHA types meet present regulatory standards and guidelines for similar conditions and materials (e.g. limits for Cd and PAH in plastic materials based on REACH regulation, including toys; limits for PCB in Recycling Plastics from Shredder Residue, based on EPA guidelines).
- From reliminary results (to be confirmed) waste-based PHA slightly exceed the limits for heavy metals set by the EU Directive n. 10/2011 on PHA-based plastic materials and articles to come into contact with food. Thus, based on available results so far, the use of waste-based PHA in direct contact with food cannot be suggested.
- On the other hand, in migration tests, the PHA samples obtained under the best operating conditions complied with the EU limits for the safety of toys and on plastic materials intended for contact with refrigerated or frozen food (10/2011).

#### A tentative proposal for an EoW national decree on PHA



Directive 2018/851 (art 6) states that End of Waste for a given material can be determined case by case when a specific EU regulation is absent.

The specific Decree at National level, should be based on the following points:

- 1. Definition of the waste type (with indication of the European Catalogue Code) and its characteristics including the acceptability definitions/standards
- 2. Technical parameters in terms of characteristics and definition of limits of the resulting "new" material / substance
- 3. Definition of the specific use and markets for the new waste-derived material

In the case of PHA production from urban organic waste these three points can be clearly defined:

- a) Proposed organic waste for PHA production are typically the **organic fraction from municipal solid waste and/or the sludge from municipal wastewater treatment**, whose quantity and characteristics are typically well defined at territorial level. Based on local conditions, food processing waste can be also included.
- b) Characteristics of obtained PHA can be easily determined (monomer composition, purity, ashes), and PHA meet regulatory standards or guidelines for the allowable presence of relevant contaminants as well. Exemption/compliance for REACH/ECHA regulation has to be checked case by case as well as compliance with CLP regulation has to be warranted
- c) There is a clear market demand for bioplastics in several sectors and a first estimation of at least 1 million ton per year worldwide can be considered. Because all market segments are well ruled, there's a general provision that PHA use complies with existing regulations, guidelines and technical specification for the respective sector.

## Perception and awareness of consumers towards bioplastics from waste/sludge





Thanks to Ivan Russo

G. Moretto et al. Water Research https://doi.org/10.1016/j.watres.2019.115371



### A few remarks

How to transform wastewater/waste treatment plants into biorefineries as part of the development strategies of the circular bioeconomy

✓ Availability of supply of sufficient "raw material", stable, and not in competition with more noble uses.

✓ Simple and robust technologies to deal with the intrinsic variability of the raw material and at the same time to guarantee the reliability of bioproducts.

 $\checkmark$  Integration of new technologies with existing plants.

Rethinking and adaptation of the legislation in the light of technological developments (e.g. overcoming the dichotomy between wastewater and waste in specific cases).
 Rapid implementation of the regulatory and authorization aspects (eg "end of waste"),

starting from the early development stage of the new technologies. ✓ Management of the possible contradiction between the circularity of waste and non-

contaminants.

✓ Bio-products with real market value

✓Adequate connection between the different industrial sectors and business models (revenues/tariffs/taxes and incentives if any)

✓ Effective and proven sustainability of bioproducts (LCA, "end of life")

 $\checkmark$  Awareness, motivation and satisfaction on a social level



#### **Annex 7: Presentations – Digitalisation**





WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# Online seminar on digitalization

A. Kleyböcker, S. Casa Garriga, F. Fantone, C. Bruni

## May, 20th 2021

## Ultimate (June 2020 – May 2024):

## Industry water-utility symbiosis for a smarter water society

- Promotion, establishment and extension of Water Smart Industrial Symbioses
- Development and demonstration of **innovative technologies** for symbioses
- Assessment of the technologies and development of digital "support tools"
- Development of new business models towards marketability











- F. Fatone C. Bruni
- **Nutrient recovery**
- **High added value products**
- **Metal recovery**



KOMPETENZZENTRUM Wasser Berlin

A. Kleyböcker

- **Biogas technologies**
- **Heat recovery**
- Digitalization





KOMPETENZZENTRUM Wasser Berlin

UNIVERSITÀ POLITECNICA DELLE MARCHE

A. Kleyböcker

**Biogas technologies** 

**Heat recovery** 

**Digitalization** 



## **Online seminar on digitalization**

- 14:10 **Digital Water City (DWC)**: Early warning system for bathing water quality and water reuse *Nicolas Caradot (KWB)*
- 14:35 **CS3 Rosignano**: Development of an early warning system for saltwater intrusion in the sewer system *Simone Neri (West) & Cecilia Bruni (UNIVPM)*
- 14:50 **CS5 Lleida**: Development and implementation of an early warning system for membrane fouling *Antonio Giminez Lorang (Aqualia)*
- 15:05 Short break
- 15:15 **CS9 Kalundborg**: Development of a joint control system for an industrial and a municipal wastewater treatment plant Anne Kleyböcker (KWB) & Line Rodenkam Melchiorsen (KCR)
- 15:30 **Fiware4Water**: Intelligent control wastewater treatment Siddharth Seshan (KWR) & Alex van der Helm (Waternet)



15:55



## Please mute your microphone and use the chat to ask questions!

# Presentations will be available on our webpage: ultimatewater.eu



#### ACADEMIC ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS

Сомінь зоон



The project leading to this application has received randing from the European origins Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



#### WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# CS3 – Development of an early warning system for saltwater intrusion in the sewer system

Cecilia Bruni (UNIVPM) and Simone Neri (WEST) 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021









1800-2000 2000-3000 3000-4000





## **CECINA Sensor network**



- ✓ 3 conductivity sensors in Cecina sewer network
- ✓ 4 flow sensors in Cecina sewer network
- ✓ 2 conductivity sensors at Cecina WWTP

/stems





The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



VEST Systems


### Smart equalization before ARETUSA WWRP

Flow = 2458 ± 3241 m3/d

EC = 2661 ± 552 μS/cm

Surface water body



Flow = 9281 ± 3623 m3/d EC = 2661 ± 552 μS/cm

#### Rosignano WWTP

#### Cecina WWTP



Flow = 3477 ± 2140 m3/d EC = 1976 ± 541 μS/cm

### Aretusa WWRP



- 1. Equalization
- 2. Coagulation/flocculation
- 3. Sedimentation
- 4. Sand filtration
- 5. Biological activated carbon
- 6. Activated carbon filtration

#### SOLVAY

Wastewater to Solvay



Flow = 9753 ± 1945 m3/d EC = 2319 ± 483 μS/cm Required EC: < 2000 μS/cm



Groundwater

Flow = 2893 ± 2798 m3/d EC = 1976 ± 541 μS/cm

Surface water body



### Real-time data monitoring







### Sensor

- 4 electrodes (2 graphic, 2 platinum)
- Range 0 to 200 mS/cm
- Digital sensor / Modbus RS-485

#### Robust and Watertight

Resolution Conductivity	0,01 to 1 according the range
Accuracy Conductivity	+/- 1 % of the full range Beyond 100 mS/cm use appropriate buffer solution
Measure range salinity	5-60 g/Kg
Measure range TDS -KCI	0-133 000 ppm
Measure range Temperature	0,00 °C to + 50,00°C
Resolution Temperature	0,01 °C
Accuracy temperature	± 0,5 °C
Response time	< 5 s
Working temperature	0°C to 50°C
Temperature compensation	NTC
Stocking temperature	- 10°C to + 60°C
Signal interface	Modbus RS-485 (option SDI-12)
Maximum refreshing time	Max < 1 s
Sensor power-supply	5 to 12 volts
Electric consumption	Standby : 25 µA Average RS485 (1 measure/seconde) : 6,3 mA Average SDI12 (1 measure/seconde) : 9,2 mA Current pulse : 500 mA





10



MIDO met

- 2 Analog inputs (0-20 mA, 0-5 V, 0-10 V)
- **RS-485** Communication
- Cloud computing (MiDOMetSoft) -
- **Battery powered**
- **GSM/GPRS** data communication

The data logger is connected to a cloud platform to upload the data recorded























WS-SCADA is able to downlaod data from different sources and save onto the database.

.....

Parameters of each sensor/datalogger connected to the system is shown inside a box

The first line shows date and time of the last value downloaded

RMU 1		RMU4	×	RIVILI-	×	Multiparametrica 1	Multiparametrica 2	
CS1 S1 Date	18/05/202:	CS1 S4 Date	18/05/202:	CS1 S7 Date	18/05/2021 17:0	HYD Date 18/05/2021 17:00	2. SCAN Date	18/05/2
CS1 S1 Level	2.72 m	CS1 S4 Level	1.40 m	CS1 S7 Level	4.66 m	HYD Temp 15.06 °C	SCAN Turbidity	12,85 F
CS1 S1 Conduc	tivity -125.83 µS	CS1 S4 Conductiv	vity 32532.00 pt	and the second	the second s	HYD pH 7.20 pHu	SCAN NO3-Neg	1.26 m)
CS1 S1 Temper	ature 23.0 °C	CS1 S4 Temperat	ure 50.0 °C		1000 B	HYD Cond 667 µS/cm	SCAN TOCeq	2.59 mg
CS1 S1 Battery	12.90 V	CS1 S4 Battery	12.98 V	CS1 S7 Battery	12.81 V	HYD ORP 628 mV	SCAN DOCeq	0.07 m
	-		-		-	HYD Depth 1.51 m	SCAN COLORtr	4.92 Ha
8MU2	X	RMUS	×	8MU 8	*	HYD DO 4.62 mg/l	SCAN COLORAD	/6.81 H
CS1 S2 Date	18/05/202:	CS1 S5 Date	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	CS1 S8 Date	18/05/202:		SCAN UV254F	0.00 AD
CS1 S2 Level	3.23 m	CS1 S5 Level	m	CS1 S8 Level	0.00 m		SCAN Tempera	ure 20.02
CS1 S2 Conduc	tivity 697.50 µ6/	CS1 S5 Conductiv	/ity µS/cm	CS1 S8 Conduct	ivity 0.00 µS/cm			
CS1 S2 Temper	ature 142.7 °C	CS1 S5 Temperat	ure °C	CS1 S8 Temper	12 61 V			
CST SZ Battery	12.32 V	CST SS Ballery		CST So Ballery	12.01 V	Centro controllo	Telemetria	
DEMIS	100	DIALE		PINIO U		SUV Date Level 18/05/20	21 TELT Uptime	38113 s
CS1 C2 Data	19/05/2021 17:0	CS1 S5 Data 1	8/05/2021 15:2	CEL EL Data	19/05/2021	SUV Level U.43 m	TELT TEMP	67.0 °C
CS1 S3 Level	167 m	CSI S6 Level 2	97 m	CS1 S9 Level	1.12 m	SUV Pump Enable	TELT 230V	
COT COTECTO	1.07 11			CS1 S9 pH	7.43 pHu	SUV Pump mode AUTO	TELT IP Addres	s 10.41.48
				CS1 S9 Temper	ature 16.7 °C	WDOG Watchdog ON	TELT AnalogIn	out 12.674
CS1 S3 Battery	12.60 V	CS1 S6 Battery 1	1.70 V	CS1 S9 ORp	337.00 mV			
Station Log				X	Communicator Lo	q		
18/05/2021 17:07:5	7 CS1 Normal	Record saved to DB (	DIK)			2		



**WS-SCADA** monitor

Each box shows the plot of the temporal variation of a single parameter monitored

Time scale (x) and vertical scale (y) can be configured to set a different zoom





### **WS-SCADA** monitor

Each dot on the plot represents the value of a single measurement stored in the database







Query

Allows to export data from the database and save them in Excel format or in Text format for data processing







#### **Thank You!**







### CS5 Lleida: Development and implementation of an early warning system for membrane fouling

A. Giménez-Lorang



20.05.2021 CS meeting on "Digitalization

### Case study nr. 5: baseline conditions







### Case study nr. 5: ULTIMATE water-smart solution



### Why AnMBR?

- Lower energy demand/ net energy production
- Lower sludge production
- ✓ Lower  $CO_2$  emission
- Opportunity for nutrient recovery





# R&D projects by Aqualia in the AnMBR field



<complex-block>

#### http://eranetbestf.eu/call/bestf2/project-results/biowamet/

👃 Municipal 👗 BI

Black water



OFMSW









### Scientific background of Aqualia in the MBR field

- Silva-Teira A, Vázquez-Padín JR, Weiler R, Fernández-González R, Rogalla F, Garrido JM. Performance of a hybrid membrane bioreactor treating a low strength and alkalinity wastewater. Process Biochemistry, Volume 66, 2018, Pages 176-182, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.procbio.2017.12.015">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.procbio.2017.12.015</a>
- Jiménez-Benítez A, Ferrer J, Rogalla F, Vázquez JR, Seco A, Robles A. 12 Energy and environmental impact of an anaerobic membrane bioreactor (AnMBR) demonstration plant treating urban wastewater. In: Current Developments in Biotechnology and Bioengineering, Elsevier, 2020, Pages 289-310, ISBN 9780128198544, <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-819854-4.00012-5</u>
- Silva-Teira A, Vázquez-Padín JR, Reif R, Arias A, Garrido JM. Assessment of a combined UASB and MBR process for treating wastewater from a seafood factory at different temperatures. 180(2020)43-54. <u>https://doi.org/10.5004/dwt.2020.25076</u>
- Robles A, Durán F, Giménez JB, Jiménez E, Ribes J, Serralta J, Seco A, Ferrer J, Rogalla F. Anaerobic membrane bioreactors (AnMBR) treating urban wastewater in mild climates. Bioresource Technology, Volume 314, 2020. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biortech.2020.123763</u>
- Odriozola M, **Morales N, Vázquez-Padín JR**, Lousada-Ferreira M, Spanjers H, van Lier JB. Fouling Mitigation by Cationic Polymer Addition into a Pilot-Scale Anaerobic Membrane Bioreactor Fed with Blackwater. Polymers. 2020; 12(10):2383. <u>https://doi.org/10.3390/polym12102383</u>
- Giménez-Lorang A, Vázquez-Padín JR, Dorado-Barragán C, Sánchez-Santos G, Vila-Armadas S, Flotats-Ripoll X. Treatment of the Supernatant of Anaerobically Digested Organic Fraction of Municipal Solid Waste in a Demo-Scale Mesophilic External Anaerobic Membrane Bioreactor. Front Bioeng Biotechnol. 2021 Apr 12;9:642747. <u>https://doi.org/10.3389/fbioe.2021.642747</u>
- Sanchis-Perucho P, Robles Á, Durán F, Rogalla F, Ferrer J, Seco A. Widening the applicability of AnMBR for urban wastewater treatment through PDMS membranes for dissolved methane capture: Effect of temperature and hydrodynamics. J Environ Manage. 2021 Jun 1;287:112344.
   <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2021.112344">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2021.112344</a>. Epub 2021 Mar 19.

#### EP16382140.8:

Anaerobic process with filtration procedure for treating wastewater at room temperature. FCC Aqualia, S.A., Universitat Politècnica De València, Universitat De València





### What we know from fouling... in a few words



Advances in Chemical Engineering and Science Vol.4 No.1(2014), Article ID:42423,6 pages DOI:10.4236/aces.2014.41008



The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

#### WHAT IS FOULING?

 Process leading to deterioration of flux due to the surface or internal blockage of the membranes (Judd 2006).

Judd, S. (2006) *The MBR Book: Principles and Applications of Membrane Bioreactors in Water and Wastewater Treatment*. Elsevier, Amsterdam.



### What's important about fouling (I)

#### WHAT IS FOULING?

 Process leading to deterioration of flux due to the surface or internal blockage of the membranes (Judd 2006).

Judd, S. (2006) *The MBR Book: Principles and Applications of Membrane Bioreactors in Water and Wastewater Treatment*. Elsevier, Amsterdam.

• It's a **complex process**, with several causes that can be interlinked and **not always well understood**.

#### "There is no unified statement about the mechanisms of membrane fouling"

Du X, Shi Y, Jegatheesan V, Haq IU. A Review on the Mechanism, Impacts and Control Methods of Membrane Fouling in MBR System. Membranes. 2020; 10(2):24. <u>https://doi.org/10.3390/membranes10020024</u>





### What's important about fouling (II)

It matters to scientists and to operators.



https://www.thembrsite.com/features/the-2016-mbr-survey-results/

#### Another consequence of fouling

 Responsible for 40-50% of total specific energy consumed in submerged AeMBRs (Lousada-Ferreira, 2014).

Lousada-Ferreira M, Krzeminski P, Geilvoet S, Moreau A, Gil JA, Evenblij H, Van Lier JB, Van der Graaf JHJM. Filtration Characterization Method as Tool to Assess Membrane Bioreactor Sludge Filterability—The Delft Experience. Membranes. 2014; 4(2):227-242. <u>https://doi.org/10.3390/membranes4020227</u>



Fig. 1. The annual publications on MBR fouling (google scholar as literature database).

Cramer M, Kloth S, Tränckner J. Optimization and fouling mechanism of a thermophile submerged MBR (TSMBR) pilot plant for wastewater treatment in a paper mill, Journal of Water Process Engineering, Volume 17, 2017, Pages 110-116, <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jwpe.2017.02.008</u>.



# Fouling indicators (I)

#### **FOULING INDICATORS**

- Other bulk classic parameters (OCR, SSV, SVI, CST, TTF...) or dead-end are debatable.
- **Sludge filterability** aims to represent the fouling propensity of sludge.

From: Lousada-Ferreira, M. Filterability and Sludge Concentration in Membrane Bioreactors; Technical University of Delft: Delft, The Netherlands, 2011.



## **Fouling indicators (II)**

#### **FOULING INDICATORS**

- Other bulk classic parameters (OCR, SSV, SVI, CST, TTF...) or dead-end are debatable.
- **Sludge filterability** aims to represent the fouling propensity of sludge.

From: Lousada-Ferreira, M. Filterability and Sludge Concentration in Membrane Bioreactors; Technical University of Delft: Delft, The Netherlands, 2011.

				WATER SMART INDUST	
Delft Fil Characte Method (Filtration test cellsVITO F Measur (MBR-)	Delft Filtration Characterization Method (DFCm)	$\Delta R_{20}$	$m^{-1}$	Evenblij <i>et al.</i> (2006) Moreau <i>et al.</i> (2009) de la Torre <i>et al.</i> (2009a; 2010) (this study)	
	Berlin Filtration Method (BFM)	Critical flux	L/(m <sup>2</sup> h)		
	VITO Fouling Measurement (MBR-VFM)	VFM <sub>rev</sub>	%	Huyskens <i>et al.</i> (2008; 2010)	
	<i>Ex situ</i> test cell	Critical flux	L/(m <sup>2</sup> h)	Rosenberger <i>et al.</i> (2002) Schaller <i>et al.</i> (2006)	
		Filtration resistance R	m <sup>-1</sup>		

From: De la Torre T. The Quest for a Universal Indicator for MBR Fouling. Technischen Universität Berlin; Berlin, Germany: 2013

	$\Delta R_{20}[\times 10^{12} \text{m}^{-1}]$
Good	< 0.1
Ioderate	0.1-1
oor	>1

Table.  $\Delta R_{20}$  values and corresponding MBR activated sludge filterability-for standard DFCm measuring protocol.

*From:* Geilvoet, S. The Delft Filtration Characterisation Method, Assessing Membrane Bioreactor Activated Sludge Filterability; Technical University of Delft: Delft, The Netherlands, 2010.



# Advantages of monitoring sludge filterability (I)

#### **INTEREST FOR OPERATORS**

- Optimization of operation (filtration, relaxation/backwash, gas or velocity demands...).
  - F.ex. During good filterability periods
  - $\rightarrow$  prolong the filtration protocol
  - $\rightarrow$  decrease SGDm
  - $\rightarrow$  increase hydraulic performance
  - $\rightarrow$  improve the energy efficiency.



# Advantages of monitoring sludge filterability (II)

#### **INTEREST FOR OPERATORS**

- Optimization of operation (filtration, relaxation/backwash, gas or velocity demands...).
- Identify the need of physical or chemical cleanings (= only when necessary) → minimize chemical consumption and exposure to membranes
- Early warning system for operators in case of bad sludge filterability

   → change in operation conditions in order to avoid excessive fouling.
   → look for causes / check disruptions (overload, bad mixing, presence of inhibitors...).





# Advantages of monitoring sludge filterability (III)

#### **INTEREST FOR OPERATORS**

- Optimization of operation (filtration, relaxation/backwash, gas or velocity demands...).
- Identify the need of physical or chemical cleanings (= only when necessary) → minimize chemical consumption and exposure to membranes
- Early warning system for operators in case of bad sludge filterability

→ change in operation conditions in order to avoid excessive fouling.
 → look for causes / check disruptions (overload, bad mixing, presence of inhibitors...).

• Irreversible fouling can be estimated.





# How we will do that? (I)

- Build & commissioning of the plant
  - Mobile (ex-situ), plug&play
  - Automatic
  - Integrable to SCADA



Odriozola M, Lousada-Ferreira M, Spanjers H, van Lier JB (2021). Effect of sludge characteristics on optimal required dosage of flux enhancer in anaerobic membrane bioreactors. Journal of Membrane Science 619 (2021) 118776



# How we will do that? (II)

- Build & commissioning of the plant
  - Mobile (ex-situ), plug&play
  - Automatic
  - Integrable to SCADA
- Measure of  $\Delta R_{20}$  in AnMBR in CS5
  - Correlate to permeability (K<sub>20</sub>), SGD<sub>m</sub> and other operating & analytical parameters
  - Compare with / without MB-MBR configuration
  - Procedures for operation optimization. Adapt to functioning logic.
  - Membrane screening / autopsy



Odriozola M, Morales N, Vázquez-Padín JR, Lousada-Ferreira M, Spanjers H, van Lier JB. Fouling Mitigation by Cationic Polymer Addition into a Pilot-Scale Anaerobic Membrane Bioreactor Fed with Blackwater. Polymers. 2020; 12(10):2383. <u>https://doi.org/10.3390/polym12102383</u>



# MBR + adsorbents $\rightarrow$ better filterability (I)

A way to improve biomass characteristics: add adsorbents, like activated carbon or biochar



Chang, I.S., Le-Clech, P., Jefferson, B. and Judd, S.J. (2002). Membrane fouling in membrane bioreactors for wastewater treatment, Environ. Eng. Sci., 128(11), 1018-1029)



# MBR + adsorbents $\rightarrow$ better filterability (II)

A way to improve biomass characteristics: add adsorbents, like activated carbon or biochar



#### WHY ADD ACTIVATED CARBON IN A MBR?

- Floc size increase
- Adsorption of soluble microbial products
- Micro-pollutant adsorption

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS:**

- Increase process stability
- Improvement of filterability
- Decrease of fouling propensity
- Increased filtration capacity
- Decrease of aeration needs
- Decrease of chemical cleanings
- Increase of membrane lifetime
- Decrease of membrane replacement
- Decrease energy expenditure



MBMBR = Moving Bed Membrane Bioreactor.





### Valorastur project: tested MBR + biochar







### CS5 Lleida: Development and implementation of an early warning system for membrane fouling

A. Giménez-Lorang



20.05.2021 CS meeting on "Digitalization



WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# CS9: Development of a joint control system for an industrial and a municipal WWTP

A. Kleyböcker, L. Rodenkam Melchiorsen, J. Schütz, L. Lundgaard, S. Bendix Larsen

### CS9 in Kalundborg (Denmark)





### CS9 in Kalundborg (Denmark)





# Situation at the start of Ultimate





### Situation at the start of Ultimate **Industrial WWTP Kalundborg Municipality** Pharma & biotech industry 46% 51% **Municipal** WWTP **Power plant** 3%



### Industrial wastewater treatment plant: own control system & chemical phosphorus removal


## Situation at the start of Ultimate





## Municipal wastewater treatment plant: own control system & chemical phosphorus removal



## **Joint Control System**

#### **Objective:**

#### **Reduce energy consumption**

→ Predictive controlled nitrogen elimination ( $O_2$  concentration as low as possible via predicting NH<sub>4</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub>, TN and COD loads to the municipal WWTP)

#### **Options:**

#### Reduce chemicals consumption for phosphorus elimination

 $\rightarrow$  Change to enhanced biological phosphorus removal

#### **Reduce direct discharges to recipient**

 $\rightarrow$  iWWTP = hydraulic buffer during high loading situations





## **Joint Control System**

SCADA Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition

- RTU Remote Terminal Unit
- PLC Programmable Logic Controller
- WWTP Wastewater Treatment Plant





Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



## **Development of functions and test via digital twin**

#### via software:



## → Challenge: wastewater results not only from municipality, but also from industry →Functions for modelling have to adapted





### **Development of digital twin:**

#### High quality data required to gain reliable results from modelling



• Validation of the model

### **Development of digital twin:**

High quality data required to gain reliable results from modelling

#### Fractioning

- Influent mWW
- Influent iWW
- Influent mixed WW

- Steady state modelling with standard blocks
- Variation: different set-ups
- Balancing of COD, TSS,
- Balancing of N and P
- Comparison between model results and measurement
- Simple aeration model
- Simple precipitation model
- Calibration of the model
- Validation of the model

- Dynamic model
- Improved aeration model
- Improved precipitation model

Improved

model

- Improved control-concept
- Calibration of the model
- Validation of the model

- Final set-up
- Improved model

**Digital twin** 



## Data generation and management

• Evaluation of historical process data (online & routine measurements)

#### ADDITIONAL:

- Measuring campaigns to determine diurnal variations (influents to the mWWTP, to the conventional activated sludge dichtes and effluent of mWWTP)
- Phosphate release experiments
- Installation of new multi-sensors for real time data



# Data generation and management

• Evaluation of historical process data (online & routine measurements)

#### **ADDITIONAL:**

 Measuring campaigns to determine diurnal variations (influents to the mWWTP, b) the conventional activated sludge dichtes and effluent of mWWTP)

- Phosphate release experiments
- Installation of new multi-sensors for real time data



#### Measuring campaign to determine the diurnal variation





### Measuring campaign to determine the diurnal variation Chemical oxygen demand & Total suspended solids



Municipal wastewater

Industrial wastewater



### Measuring campaign to determine the diurnal variation Total nitrogen, Ammonium, Nitrate



### Measuring campaign to determine the diurnal variation Total phosphorus & Phosphate



Municipal wastewater

Industrial wastewater





### **Development of digital twin:**

#### High quality data required to gain reliable results from modelling



Validation of the model

## Modelling: Fractioning parameter











#### Fractioning of the influent mix: municipal & industrial WW

What do those factors mean?  $f_S = 0.215$   $f_B = 0.265$  $f_A = 0.70$ 

Dissolved COD: 81 mg/L

Particulate COD: 151 mg/L





#### Fractioning of the influent mix: municipal & industrial WW





#### Fractioning of the influent mix: municipal & industrial WW

What do those factors mean?  $f_S = 0.215$   $f_B = 0.265$   $f_A = 0.70$ Dissolved COD: 81 mg/L Particulate COD: 151 mg/L

Dissolved inert COD: 50 mg/L (f<sub>s</sub>=0.215 of total COD)

BOD: 76 mg/L

Particulate inert COD: 106 mg/L (f<sub>A</sub>=0.7 of particulate COD)



### Fractioning of the influent mix: municipal & industrial WW





### Fractioning of the influent mix: municipal & industrial WW





### Fractioning of the influent mix: municipal & industrial WW





### Fractioning of the influent mix: municipal & industrial WW





### Fractioning of the influent mix: municipal & industrial WW







#### **Development of digital twin:**

#### High quality data required to gain reliable results from modelling



• Validation of the model

### Modelling: #SIMBA Model-Overview Basic Set-UP 1





Modelling: #SIMBA - Flow [m³/d]





Modelling: #SIMBA - Total suspended solids [g/d]





## Modelling: #SIMBA – Chemical oxygen demand [g/d]







### **Development of digital twin:**

#### High quality data required to gain reliable results from modelling



• Validation of the model



## Thank you for your attention!

#### **Contact:**

Anne Kleyböcker <anne.kleyboecker@kompetenz-wasser.de> Line Rodenkam Melchiorsen <lirm@kalfor.dk> Lars Lundgaard <lalu@kalfor.dk> Sille Bendix Larsen <SBXL@novozymes.dk>





# digital-water.city



Leading urban water management to its digital future

H2020 innovation action | 5 M€ funding 2019-2022

*Nico Caradot* Kompetenzzentrum Wasser Berlin





jital-water city has received funding from the ropean Union's H2020 Research and Innovation ogramme under Grant Agreement No. 820954.

## Objective

Develop and demonstrate 15 advanced digital solutions to address water-related challenges



digital-water.city y digitalwater\_eu

24 partners

















ICR A9



Langeveld | Liefting | Schilperoort | De Haan | Post



fluidic intelligence



kando





Arctik Communication for sustainability

digital-water.city has received tunding from the European Union's H2028 Research and Innovatio Programme under Grant Agreement No. 820954.
# 5 cities > EU challenges

## **#Copenhagen** Flooding and environmental impacts

## **#Paris** 2024 Olympic games

## **#Berlin**

Protection of river quality and drinking water sources

**#Sofia** 

# #Milan Safe water-reuse

**ROI and operational costs** 

## Bathing water

Early warning system to forecast bathing water quality and communicate with the public



Mockup: Technologiestiftung Berlin

# *Real-time measurement of bacterial contamination*



# Drinking water

Predictive asset management of drinking water wells





Innovative monitoring of sewer illicit connections Low costs CSO monitoring technology with T sensor Advanced 48h sewer flow forecast

## Treatment plant

*Real-time control of WWTP and sewer retention capacities* 

•

Early Warning System for water reuse



## Water reuse



#### Remote monitoring of water stress

Match making platform to support water allocation

# Public involvement

Augmented Reality (AR) app to communicate groundwater issue with the public

Serious game to communicate the benefits of reuse in term of nexus



# Focus on two innovations

## **#Paris**

EWS for bathing water quality

## #Milano EWS for safe water reuse

## **#Paris**

Improve bathing water management in the river Seine for the Olympic games of 2024

#### Comparison of laboratories and ALERT devices

Errorbars show 95% prediction intervals (shaded thick outer line) and 95% confindence interval (inner solid line)





SENSORS FOR REAL-TIME IN SITU E.COLI AND ENTEROCOCCI MEASUREMENTS

digital-water.city digitalwater\_eu

digital-water.city has received lunding from the European Union's H2020 Research and Innovation Programme under Grant Agreement No. 820954. Early warning system for bathing water quality

- → The EWS is composed of a statistical and deterministic model of the rivers in Paris
- Developments are based on the FIWARE architecture
- Current activity: validation of the models performance + COP for expectations

digital-water.city





MACHINE-LEARNING BASED EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR BATHING WATER QUALITY

**Public App** 



# First model runs (24h-Random Forest)

Model fit of Random Forest model

digital-w

😏 digital



digital-water.city has received funding from the European Union's H2020 Research and Innovation Programme (ingle Grant Agreement No. 820954



## First software architecture



Bathing Spots Predictors Prediction models Feature Groups

FAQ Info Log Out

#### Pont D'lena Rg

Use this model for making predictions

#### Model fit of Random Forest model





Programme under Grant Agreement No. 820954

# Focus on two innovations

## **#Paris**

EWS for bathing water quality

## #Milano EWS for safe water reuse

# DWC in few words



Joion's H2020 Research and Inno

→Leverage the **potential of data and digital** technologies

- →**Boost the water management** in 5 EU cities
- → **Promote the value** of the digital solutions for the tech providers
- →Achieve a new step in the integration of digital solutions in EU, in particular regarding cybersecurity, interoperability and governance

digital-water.city y digitalwater\_eu

#### nicolas.caradot@kompetenz-wasser.de





**digital-water.city** is a research project supported by the European Commission under the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme

Grant Agreement No 820954

Duration: 01/06/19 - 30/11/22





FIWARE for the Next generation Internet Services for the WATER sector

## Intelligent Control for Wastewater Treatment Plant

Dr Alex van der Helm, Waternet Siddharth Seshan, KWR Water Research Institute and PhD TU Delft





regional public water authority amstel gooi en vecht city of amsterdam



## **Fiware for Water**

- 14 partners: water utilities, universities, research institutes, companies, NGO
- Period: 01/06/2019 31/05/2022
- Member of:
  - EU ICT4Water cluster
  - EU Synergy Group DigitalWater2020





This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 821036.





#### Demo Case #1 • Greece

Athens • Water Supply System real time operational managment

#### Demo Case #2 • France

Cannes • Improving the Water Supply System

#### Demo Case #3 • Netherlands

Amsterdam • Intelligent control for wastewater treatment

#### Demo Case #4 • United Kingdom

Great Torrington • Smart Meters and Customers



#### Waternet water cycle utility of Amsterdam





4

# Wastewater treatment plant Amsterdam West

### Nitrous oxide (N2O) gas emissions



Real-time measurement in off-gas aeration tanks (ATs) of WWTP Amsterdam West starting 2016:

15 – 28 kton/year CO<sub>2</sub>-eq











### **Building Blocks for Digitalization of WWTP**







#### Sensor deployment and research facility





#### **Primary settler**









### AI models for aeration optimisation





#### Data driven AI digital twin model



Inputs					
Influent	Energy	02	Recirc-C	Ctrl-recirc-C	
Influent-terrain	Valves-NIT	NH <sub>4</sub>	DS-surplus-drain	out-N <sub>2</sub> O-volume	
Effluent	Valves-FCT	DS	Setpoint-O <sub>2</sub>		
Blowers	NO <sub>3</sub> -NIT	Recirc-A	Ctrl-recirc-A		
Pressure	NO <sub>3</sub> -DNT	Recirc-B	Ctrl-recirc-B		





$$[y_1^{t+1}, y_2^{t+1}, ..., y_n^{t+1}]$$

#### A reinforcement learning agent





#### **AI control implementation**







#### **Automatic Data Validation and Data Quality Control**



- Data quality can be impacted by sensor faults, (sensor) calibration issues, fouling, connectivity problems during transfer of data between the sensors/actuators and PIMS.
- Manual detection and correction can be labour intensive, particularly for signals used for simulation by Al models.
- Development of an automated data validation framework to screen raw data signals prior to model simulations and visualization.



#### **Automatic Data Validation and Data Quality Control**



- Simple statistical methods to detect gross sensor anomalies due to sensor failures.
- Involves the collection of crucial metadata on sensors and guidance from process technologists.
- Detection of contextual anomalies using model-based detection.
- Development of soft sensors for crucial parameters (such as NH4 in aerobic tank) for data reconciliation.
- Conduct a (near) real-time data validation process using Fiware.





#### **Integration of FIWARE To Legacy System**





#### **Data Integration Layer**



common data models underpinning a digital market

of interoperable and replicable smart solutions.

\$ 43 ¥ 27

Python

#### NGSI-LD Data Models Describing the 'As-built' Digital Twin

- Development of common information data models in NGSI-LD for the wastewater domain.
- Ensure interoperability for wastewater treatment systems.
- Using existing definitions by the Fiware/TM Forum/IUDX to promote a standardised approach and ensure interoperability across domains.

- Te

CATA MODELS A program led by FIWARE, IUD.	X, TM Forum and others to support the adoption of a © @smartdatamodels	
📮 Repositories 58 💮 Packages 🕱 Pe	eople 1 III Projects	
Pinned repositories		
SmartAgrifood	SmartCities	
A repository for data models related to the Smart Agrifood Domain. Includes data models for Crops, Farms, Animals, Land Use & etc.	A repository for data models related to the Smart Cities Domain. Includes data models for Buildings, Parking, Urban Mobility & etc.	
公 4	<b>公</b> 19 <b></b> ¥ 10	
SmartWater	📮 data-models	
A repository for data models related to the Water Management Domain, includes data models for	A joint collaboration program to support the adoption of a reference architecture and compatible	

公7 82

etc.

Waste Water, Water Quality, Water Distribution &

#### **Data Integration Layer**



#### NGSI-LD Data Models Describing the 'As-built' Digital Twin



### **Data Integration Layer**

#### WasteWaterTreatment Data Models

- Following entity types have been developed:
  - WasteWaterTank
  - WasteWaterJunction
  - Blower
  - OffGasStack
- Models can be found here -<u>https://github.com/smart-data-</u> <u>models/dataModel.WasteWater</u>
- Extension of these models based on the use case requirements.
- Further models applicable to WWTPs in development.






## Thank you

Dr. Alex van der Helm, Waternet alex.van.der.helm@waternet.nl

Siddharth Seshan, KWR Water Research Institute and PhD TU Delft Siddharth.Seshan@kwrwater.nl





This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 821036.



#### **Annex 8: Presentations – Success secret of WSIS**





WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# What is the secret of successful water smart industrial symbioses?

A. Kleyböcker and A. Perkis

March 23rd 2022

## Ultimate (June 2020 – May 2024):

- Promotion, establishment and extension of Water Smart Industrial Symbioses
- Development and demonstration of innovative technologies for symbioses
- Assessment of the technologies and development of digital "support tools"
- Engagement of stakeholders to discuss and enhance our Ultimate solutions
- Development of **new business models** towards marketability











The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

## Ultimate solutions involve circular economy technologies

- Membrane technologies
- Adsorption technologies
- Electrostimulated systems





# **Tools to engage stakeholders**



The main vision is to design and promote active stakeholder engagement and innovation cocreation by transdisciplinary knowledge and capacities from Art, Technology and Digital Humanities. In this way, we will produce knowledge capable of addressing the complexities inherent in symbiotic arrangements engaging

industry, water utilities and the general public



The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



## What is the secret of successful WSIS?

10:05 CS9: Kalundborg Symbiosis and the secret behind a resilient partnership Lisbeth Randers (Kalundborg Symbiosis) 10:20 Strategy and role of multi-utilities to deliver territorial symbioses and circular economy Enrico Pochettino (IREN) 10:35 CS3: The ARETUSA symbiosis for local and regional water-smart sustainability Gianluca Pettinello (Solvay) & Lorenzo Bagnoni (ARETUSA) 10:50 Break CS1: Success of the Tarragona Symbiosis and strategy of the Water-Smart 11:00 Industry Vision Leadership Miquel Rovira Boixaderas (Eurecat) AquaSPICE: Capitalising the experience of others to achieve a successful 11:15 symbiosis Athanasios Angelis-Dimakis (Huddersfield University) 11:30 Discussion (Moderation: Stefania Munaretto)

8

12:15



## Please mute your microphone and use the chat to ask questions!

#### Please note: we will record the workshop

The recording starts at the beginning of the meeting.



The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



# Presentations will be available on our webpage: ultimatewater.eu

♦ Results - ULTIMATE Water × +							
→ C O A https://ultimat	tewater.eu/result	s/				-	E 🕸
JLTIMOTE	Project ~	Water Smart Industrial Symbiosis	Case Studies	Stakeholder Engagement	News 🛓 Event	Results	/bout us  ~
Info Material							
Presentations Case Stud	dy Meetings						
Adsorption							
Biogas							
Digitalization							
Heat							
Membranes							
Nutrients							
Public Deliverables							



The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

4







# Success of the Tarragona Symbiosis and Strategy of the Water-Smart Industry Vision Leadership

Miquel Rovira Boixaderas and col.

Eurecat - Centre Tecnològic de Catalunya Water-Smart Industry VLT, Water Europe

23 III 2022

### Ebre (Ebro) River



Ebre River: Largest River (volume) of Spain Ebre River Delta:

- 1983 categorized as Natural Park
- 2013 UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Network







#### **Contrasting Territories**





The main economic activities in Terres de l'Ebre and the Metropolitan area of Tarragona depend on Ebre's water resources.



#### Camp de Tarragona

Metropolitan area of Tarragona-Reus with an economy based on industry, tourism and agriculture.

#### Terres de l'Ebre

Sub-region with an economy based on the primary sector

#### **Contrasting Territories**





Historical water shortages affecting the Tarragona province were significantly overcome in 1989 by the formation of the Tarragona Water Consortium (CAT), a public water agency integrated by municipalities and industries, and charged with the construction and operation of a surface water transfer system from Ebro River.





Both sub-regions are linked through water, since the Metropolitan area receives water from the Ebre River before entering the Ebre Delta trough a water transfer.

#### **Ebre Delta**





The lower Ebre River and its delta are a crucial ecosystem for the future of the whole region. Physical maintenance of the Ebro Delta depends on the inputs of water and sediments coming from the river.

Climate change adaptation is a deal in the area.





#### Camp de Tarragona



Camp de Tarragona is a seasonal water stressed region, with historical water shortages.

This area takes Ebre River water for: municipal drinking water, tourism, industrial petrochemical complex and agriculture.









## Camp de Tarragona: Petrochemical Industry







eure

Centre Tecnològic de Catalunya

### **The Symbiotic Solution**





The Camp de Tarragona Advanced Water Reclamation Plant (CTAWRP) is fed with the secondary effluent water coming from Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP) of the nearby municipalities of Vilaseca, Salou and Tarragona.



#### **The Symbiotic Solution**





Figure 1 Camp de Tarragona AWRP and reclaimed water supply network for industrial facilities at the Tarragona petrochemical park. (1) Tarragona wastewater treatment plant (WWTP); (2) diversion for submarine outfall; (3) Vilaseca-Salou WWTP and Camp de Tarragona AWRP; (4) diversion to north and south sectors of the petrochemical park; (5) reclaimed water storage tank for south sector; and (6) reclaimed water storage tank for north sector.

Reclaimed Water for the Tarragona petrochemical park. Sanz et al. (2015). Water Science & Technology Water Supply 15(2):308

#### **The Symbiotic Solution**



### Other uses in less extent:

urban Parks



golf courses





aquatic parks

### **Main Actors and Facts**

Tarragona Water Consortium (CAT), a public water agency integrated by municipalities and industries.

AEQT is community-based association that includes chemical corporations operating in the area. There is a Public Advisory Panel.

AITASA is formed by the chemical companies of the Tarragona industrial area. Its objective is to supply industrial water to companies (more than 10 MHm3/y with a 43.5 km distribution network).

ACA is the public company of the Catalan Government Catalunya that is in charge of planning and water management in Catalonia.

Citizen involvement











In 2004 AEQT submitted a proposal to ACA for a project that would eliminate the need to take water from the Ebro transfer and instead supply the industry with water from treatment plants.

Since 2012, AITASA operates the The Camp de Tarragona Advanced Water Reclamation Plant producing water for boilers and cooling towers.

This locally available additional water supply replaces surface water, that before was transferred from the Ebro River. An equivalent volume of water is now available for other uses. With this new water source, industrial growth has been supported.

#### **Main Actors and Facts**



Regulation Spanish RD 1620/2007

**Funding** With the contribution at 3 levels: europan, spanish and catalan governements

R&D&i DEMOWARE (FP7), ULTIMATE (H2020), REWATCH (Life)...

**Technology** Filtration, membranes, desinfection, monitoring...

## Conclusions



Reclaimed water can be used in the industry instead of pre-treated river water with a positive impact in the environment.

Symbiosis between an industrially owned water utility and industry is successful. PPP initiative.

Industrial climate change adaptation is in progress and with an increasing relevance.

Social awareness increasing regarding water, climate change and Ebro Delta. Demonstration of the technology is important.

Citizenship involvement is crucial.

A living project,... enlargement of the plant under study.





The Water-Smart Industry VLT pursue a future Water-Smart Society aligned to Water Europe's Vision with a focus on Industrial end-user needs, circular economy and climate change resilience.

The VLT will support the implementation of this Vision and look for opportunities to update it over time. In particular, the VLT will be mindful of the need to support the transition to climate neutrality and circularity as per the EU Green Deal goals as well as the Horizon Europe partnerships supported by WE (Water4All and Process4Planet).





# Thank you !

## miquel.rovira@eurecat.org



#### WATER SMART INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# **CS3: The Aretusa Symbiosis**

A .....

## G. Pettinello – L. Bagnoni

# What is the secret of a successful symbiosis?

A common target between Industry, Public Authorities, Universities, Local Stakeholders

Often the target comes from a **common need**:

Water scarcity

Need to recycle and reuse water for the industry







## **Solvay ONE Planet**

Solvay

-26% (-2%/y)

Baseline 2018

Achieve 100%

30% reduction

Achieve 65% vs 50% Achieve 15% vs 7%

30% reduction

25% reduction

Aim for zero accident Parity vs 24% Extension to 16 weeks (by 2021)

Reduce the environmental impact of our operations at planetary scale: tackle climate & biodiversity CLIMATE



Accelerate the transition toward circular business and operations models

RESOURCES



Greenhouse gas emissions: Align its trajectory with "well below 2°C temperature increase" (2015 Paris Agreement)

No more coal plant and phase out coal usage in energy production: wherever renewable alternatives exist

**Biodiversity:** reduce negative pressure on biodiversity beyond climate change: terrestrial acidification, water eutrophication, marine ecotoxicity

Sustainable Solutions: increase the share of revenue in Sustainable Solutions

Circular economy: increase the percentage of sales of products based on renewable or recycled resources

Industrial waste: reduce non-recoverable industrial waste (landfill or incinerated without energy recovery)

Water use efficiency: decrease the impact on freshwater withdrawal by reducing intake of freshwater

Safety: a zero accident policy aiming to protect the safety and security of employees Inclusion and Diversity: Gender parity for mid-and senior-level management by 2035 Extending maternity and paternity leave: Solvay is adapting its global policy of 14

weeks maternity leave to 16 weeks, extending it to co-parents inside the company regardless of their gender, by 2021.

The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



# ASA – Aretusa Commitment



#### **Objectives in terms of Water-Footprint reduction**:

- $\rightarrow$  Collaboration in the growth of water re-use by Solvay;
- $\rightarrow$  Processes optimization in Aretusa WRP;
- → Enhancement of digital solutions: smart monitoring and control, Early Warning System model-based;
- → Collaboration in the analysis of potential replication of this system;
- → Enhancement of ASA's institutional tasks as head of a more circular Integrated Water Management in the area;





# What is the secret of a successful symbiosis?

#### **Open communication** between the parties:

Local community, Public Authorities, stakeholders have to drive the industry towards a more sustainable footprint

#### A scientific approach:

Science and Technology are the only sensible tool to solve the environmental challenge

#### Willingness to "make it happen":

Aretusa Consortium has been successful because of the "make it happen" approach. Ultimate is showing the willingness to go one step beyond



## Aretusa concept – The technical idea



In **ARETUSA** Water Reclamation Plant we treat the secondary effluent coming from **Cecina** and **Rosignano WWTP** plants to make it **suitable for being reused** in industrial activities



From ARETUSA WRP to Solvay Industry



3.5 M m3/y



6

The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

# Ultimate – Going beyond

- Because the need to **reduce the environmental footprint** of industry has **grown** over the years
  - More social awareness of the climate change
  - Stakeholders expect the governments and the industries to act and act quickly
- Because the system can be **further optimized** 
  - Improved water quality
  - Other more demanding uses within the Industry

The Aretusa Water Symbiosis attracts new actors, new activities








- Example of building on top of Aretusa concept
- Ambitious project to build a H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>
   zero effluent plant





# The lessons of Aretusa Symbiosis

Aretusa shows that the key factors for a successful symbiosis are:

- Keep **continuous dialogue** between the parties so that the needs/expectations are shared.
- Remove **prejudices**
- Listen and "talk the same language", not necessarily technical.
- Dedicate **adequate resources and competencies** to reach the common target



# **Social learning systems**

"A tree falling makes more noise than one million trees growing"

Solvay, ASA and UNIVPM are working to make local communities aware of water reuse concept and to look for opportunities:

- Projects of water reuse for agricultural use in the local district of Val di Cecina
- Meeting with local schools (ISIS Mattei 21-22 March 2022) to stimulate young generations to look at the territory with its critical issues as opportunity for the development of new ideas and businesses





#### Contact

lorenzo.bagnoni@solvay.com







The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318

# Kalundborg Symbiosis

Surplus from circular production

Kalundborg SYMBIOSIS

# The secret behind a resilient partnership

Lisbeth Randers, head of secretariat Kalundborg Symbiosis Ultimate conference, March 23rd 2022



#### Agenda

- The history
- The ecosystem
- Four drivers for the resilient partnership



#### More than 50 years of cooperation



#### PROJECTS







#### Annual savings (by LCA)









586t. tons CO<sub>2</sub>

The local energy production has reached NET-ZERO **4 million m3** of groundwater

62,000 tons of residual materials recycled



## **Case 1: water as a mutual challenge**

Surface water



## **Case 2: changing times – changing business models**

Energy



## **Case 3: Innovation**

Production in full scale



## **Case 4: Social Economy**

The triple bottom-line

### Kalundborg Symbiosis

Surplus from circular production



For more information please contact: symbiosecenter@kalundborg.dk



Strategy and role of multi-utilities to deliver territorial symbioses and circular economy

Enrico Pochettino, Head of Innovation

#### Iren Group





1<sup>st</sup> national player in **district heating sector** 

3<sup>rd</sup> national player in water sector (water sold)

3<sup>rd</sup> national player in **waste management sector** (tons treated)

25<sup>th</sup> among Italian industrial companies for revenues

## Some figures about IREN

1<sup>st</sup> national player in district heating sector
3<sup>rd</sup> national player in water sector (water sold)
3<sup>rd</sup> national player in waste management sector (tons treated)
25<sup>th</sup> among Italian industrial companies for revenues



#### IREN's strategic plan in number 2021-30 -{0} Progressive decarbonisation of Sustainable Ecological businesses 80% Strengthening leadership in the Transition circular economy Entry into **new territories**, also through acquisitions Local 85% Becoming a reference partner for local stakeholders Territoriality Excel in network performance and For improving service quality resilience 50% Service Strengthen customer satisfaction • in all business sectors Quality ιιρι

12,7 Bln € in new investments

## The ESG targets drive all business initiatives





- Decarbonisation across activities
- Leadership in the circular economy
- Sustainable use of natural resources

#### Social

- **Diversity** and inclusion
- Dissemination of ESG best practices and support for local communities

#### Governance

- ESG responsibility of senior management
- Maximum transparency and communication on ESG issues'

- Carbon intensity halving
- 5x waste recovery
- Significant reduction of water losses
- More than 30% women in top corporate positions
- Supply chain involvement in ESG best practices
- Strengthening variable remuneration components linked to ESG issues
- Strengthening ESG-based policies

Iren



## Symbiosis with citizens and local communities

#### Iren Local Committees

Iren Local Committees are bodies, set up in 2014, to strengthen and make the dialogue with stakeholders systematic, thanks to participatory planning actions and moments of consultation, with the aim of:

## gathering project proposal from local communities

citizens, associations, municipalities put forward ideas and proposals on sustainability issues. The Committees evaluate them, study their feasibility and implement them.

#### promoting

solutions to improve the environmental and social impact for the territory

#### improving

quality of the services provided by the Group

Iren

#### **Local Committees structure**

5 Local Committees: Genova, Parma, Piacenza, Reggio Emilia and Torino

#### 15/18 REPRESENTATIVES OF CIVIL SOCIETY

- Consumer, environmental, cultural, voluntary and third sector associations
- Employees and suppliers
- Trade associations
- Shareholders/Institutions
- Schools and Universities
- Social Cooperation



#### **5 MEMBERS**

- Iren Chairman
- Iren Vice-Chairman
- Province capital
- Province municipalities
- Universities

Participation is voluntary and free of charge. Each committee has an annual budget to implement projects

#### Citizens engagement

Irencollabora.it is the web platform in which citizens can publish project proposals addressed to the Local Committees

- encourages an active involvement of stakeholders, promoting problem analysis and projects deployment
- creates new opportunities of collaboration with citizens and civil society
- allows to adopt **innovative service strategies** and anticipate the needs of the territories



## IREN «Multicircle Economy» concept



Iren

9

## I.BLU: an example of Industrial Symbiosis in waste management

Using proprietary/patented processes and technologies I.BLU (IREN Group Company) develops new circular raw materials: BLU-POLYMER for industrial processes and BLUAIR, a revolutionary techno-polymer used in metallurgical and steel processes. I.BLU R&D department also has experimental projects in progress concerning the chemical recycling of mixed plastics.





10

\*\*San Giorgio di Nogaro (Udine), Reggio Emilia and Costa di Rovigo (Rovigo)



# Blupolymer



**BLUPOLYMER** is a polyolefin granule mainly used to make:

CONSTRUCTION AND
 INFRASTRUCTURE PRODUCTS,
 INSULATION SYSTEMS.



AS A POLYMERIC ADDITIVE FOR HIGH
 PERFORMANCE ASPHALTS

**BLUPOLYMER** can be used to make materials and articles for industrial, logistics, and automotive purposes as well as outdoor urban furniture.

Iren





# Blupolymer

#### **CIRCULAR PAVING**



BLUPOLYMER increases the strength and durability of asphalt, ensuring greater safety and, at the same time, lower maintenance costs and waste of resources. It can be used for motorways, urban and suburban roads, industrial areas, logistics centers and airports.

#### **URBAN FURNITURES**

BLUPOLYMER can be used in several urban applications:

- Waterproofing and insulation systems
- Grass car parks, truck stops
- Furniture for public and private outdoor spaces (flooring and building accessories, green and service areas)

## BLUAIR





Irer

BLUAIR is a process optimizer engineered for iron and steel production. It can used in blast furnaces (BF) and electric arc furnaces (EAF) as Secondary Reducing Agent (SRA) in place of fossil carbon sources.

**BLUAIR** production and industrial applications are patented.

The use of **BLUAIR** represents an established and readily available opportunity to **decarbonise the steel industry**, while contributing to the Circular Economy.

In addition to **significantly reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions** and coal consumption, **BLUAIR** leads to increased industrial productivity and energy efficiency.

Many steelworks in Italy and Europe are currently replacing unsustainable fossil raw materials with **BLUAIR** in BF and EAF processes.

## Mancasale WWTP: waste water reuse for agriculture

Mancasale (RE) WWTP represents the first plant in Emilia Romagna region equipped with an **advanced tertiary** treatment of waste water for **agriculture reuse**.

The project has been realized also thanks to the contributions of the European Union, through the Life project <u>ReQpro.</u>

The advanced tertiary treatment on the Mancasale WWTP includes a rapid filtration on sand (16 units) coupled with a **disinfection process** that combines the dosage of hydrogen peroxide  $(H_2O_2)$  with UV radiation and is able to remove the most persistent pollutants (mineral oils and surfactants) and significantly reduce the bacterial load (Salmonella and E. Coli).





## Heat recovery: Turin district heating network



Some figures about the Turin district heating network:

- 71,35 million m<sup>3</sup> heated volumes
- 700 km of double pipelines
- 7.584 substations connected to the network
- 1.860 MWth e 1.160 MWe installed power

Heat recovery from CHP power plants + Waste-to-Energy plant (thermal generation 2020: 2.278 GWh)



Largest district heating network in Italy

Iren





#### Thanks for your attention

#### Iren S.p.A.

Reggio Emilia | Via Nubi di Magellano, 30 - 42123 Torino | Corso Svizzera, 95 - 10143 Genova | Via SS. Giacomo e Filippo, 7 - 16122 Parma | Strada S. Margherita, 6/A - 43123 Piacenza | Strada Borgoforte, 22 - 29122

www.gruppoiren.it



Advancing Sustainability of Process Industries through Digital and Circular Water Use Innovations

AquaSPICE: Capitalising the experience of other projects to achieve a successful (water) symbiosis

Dr Athanasios Angelis-Dimakis - University of Huddersfield Prof George Arampatzis – Technical University of Crete Dr Johann Poinapen – KWR Water Research Institute

23 March 2022



The AquaSPICE project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 958396.



#### AquaSPICE Innovation Pillars

#### **CIRCULAR INNOVATION**

- Water re-use options at different levels
- Design, monitoring and evaluation of demonstration schemes using systemic methodologies and tools, based on holistic modelling concepts

#### PROCESS INNOVATION

- Installation,
- Operation, and
- Assessment of advanced technologies and practices with energy and substances recovery

#### **DIGITAL INNOVATION**

- Water-specific Cyber-Physical-System (WaterCPS) synthesises digital twins of industrial and value chain entities to provide advanced water-saving awareness and optimised water efficiency at different industrial levels
- Real-time monitoring and distributed data management system connects the physical and digital worlds through smart sensor networks, IIoT and cloud/edge technologies





#### Capitalising the experience of relevant EU funded projects

Name	Year	Waste	Туре	Region	Led by
enCO <sub>2</sub> re	2015-2016	Carbon Dioxide	Gas	Northern Europe	Industry
Bri4Food	2016	Brines Liquid Mediterranea		Mediterranean	Industry
SWAN	2019-2020	Solid Waste Solid Balkan Re		Balkan Region	Public Authority
AquaSPICE	2020-2024	Industrial Water	Liquid	EU	RO

- Different Characteristics, Different Barriers and Different Problems
- Main factors examined
  - Technical Considerations
  - Industrial and Public Awareness
  - Common Sense



#### Technical Considerations

	Solid Waste	Gas Waste	Liquid Waste	
Waste Source	Manual or mechanical sorting and separation	Capture and Purification	Purification/Treatment	
Storage	Most probably required	Only if liquified (as intermediate step)	Rarely Considered	
Matching Sources with Receivers	Challenging since the streams are not uniform/homogenous	Based on purity of main component / presence of hazardous compounds	Based on stream composition / presence of hazardous compounds	
Transportation	Trucks only	Trucks, pipes, ships	Mostly using pipes	
Environmental Impact	Carbon Footprint	Carbon Footprint	Carbon & Water Footprint	
Safe Reuse	Hazardous waste excluded from the matching process	Need for end-of-waste criteria	EU/National Directives for reuse based on sector	
Aspects for IS success	Industrial Awareness	Distance, Product Acceptability	??	


- 315 industrial plants in the Balkan Region
  - Q1 Are you familiar with the concept of industrial symbiosis?
  - Q2 Would the plant be interested in participating in symbiotic value chains?
  - Q3 Are there any existing symbiotic links in the company?

Industrial awareness exists but the instruments are missing. AquaSPICE will (hopefully) contribute closing the gap by facilitating stakeholder engagement at Case Study level





- In order of the new business models to be economic viable, there needs to be a market for the new products.
- Would you buy a fizzy drink with captured CO<sub>2</sub> from a nearby chimney?
- Would you buy an exfoliant from used coffee grains?

Would you buy:	1: Strongly Disagree 5: Strongly Agree
Petrol for your car	4.31 (SD 0.91)
Mattress for your bed	4.06 (SD 0.96)
Concrete for your house	4.20 (SD 0.91)
1 kg tomatoes	3.79 (SD 1.11)
1 bottle of fizzy drink	3.88 (SD 1.06)
Dietary supplements	3.75 (SD 1.07)

Public knowledge affects acceptability and thus success of symbiotic schemes. Public showed willingness to support such schemes.
AquaSPICE will (hopefully) contribute to increase awareness via its Communication, Dissemination, Training and Social Awareness strategy.



- Usually, the waste stream in a symbiotic scheme is incorporated in the final product.
- What might go wrong if the waste stream is not incorporated but used as a supplementary resource in a different production line?
- A desalination unit provides drinking water to the local community, and has the right to discharge water to the water body quid pro quo...
- What if they want to redirect the wastewater stream to another local industry?

Should we / can we address everything?



- Design and develop an online platform that will facilitate the formulation of novel symbiotic business models focusing on water/wastewater reuse.
- Propose alternative solutions and assess their technical feasibility using a semantic approach based on the qualitative and quantitative characteristics of the water/wastewater streams
- Assess the economic viability of all the technically feasible symbiotic schemes.





## Applying Industrial Symbiosis in AquaSPICE





Waste to fuel transformation in a Biorefinery at JEMS Location: Ljubljana (SL) Symbiotic potential between biorefinery, agricultural stakeholders, local municipality and industrial plants



Water treatment and re-use with peroxide production units at SOLVAY Location: Tuscany and Marche (IT) Symbiotic potential between Solvay, ARETUSA and local municipality



Advancing Sustainability of Process Industries through Digital and Circular Water Use Innovations

## Thank You!

Athanasios Angelis-Dimakis (UoH): <u>A.AngelisDimakis@hud.ac.uk</u> George Arampatzis (TUC): <u>garampatzis@pem.tuc.gr</u> Johann Poinapen (KWR): <u>johann.Poinapen@kwrwater.nl</u>





