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Scale-up of low-carbon footprint MAterial Recovery Techniques in existing wastewater treatment PLANTs *"SMART-Plant"*

Francesco Fatone and the SMART-Plant Consortium



Supported by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union



The SMART-Plant Consortium

Is water central in the "Circular Economy Package"?



Circular Economy Package mainly aim at facilitating water reuse - this will include a legislative proposal on minimum requirements for reused water, for example for irrigation and groundwater recharge

Source: https://www.eip-water.eu/water-%E2%80%9Ccircular-economy-package%E2%80%9D



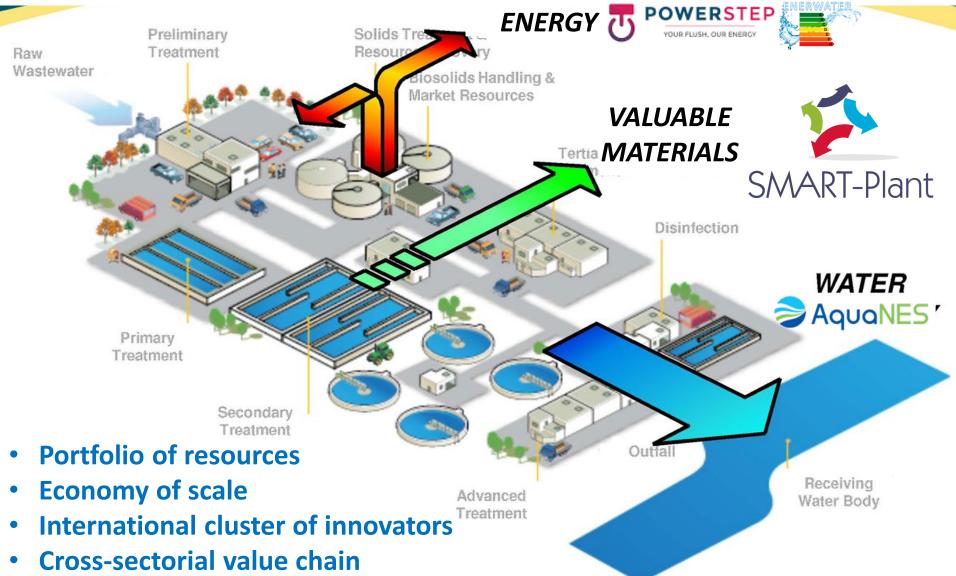
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THREE MAIN PATHWAYS TO DELIVER CIRCULAR ECONOMY



Resources embedded to municipal wastewater...recoverable at TRL 7

Parameter	Value		
Reusable water (m ³ /capita year)	80-120		
Cellulose (kg/capita year)	5-7		
Biopolymers; PHA (kg/capita year)			
Phosphorus in P precursors (kg/capita year)			
Nitrogen in N precursors (kg/capita year)			
Methane (m ³ / capita year)	12-13		
Organic Fertilizer (P-rich compost) (kg/capita year)	9-10		

Verstraete et al. (2009) *Bioresource Technology* 100, 5537–5545 Salehizadej and van Loosdrecht (2004) *Biotechnology Advances* 22, 261–279

Key enabling solutions: (1) upstream carbon diversion, (2) short-cut (via nitrite) energy efficient P and PHA recovery processes; (3) tertiary nanoengineered adsorption; (4) enhanced anaerobic treatments



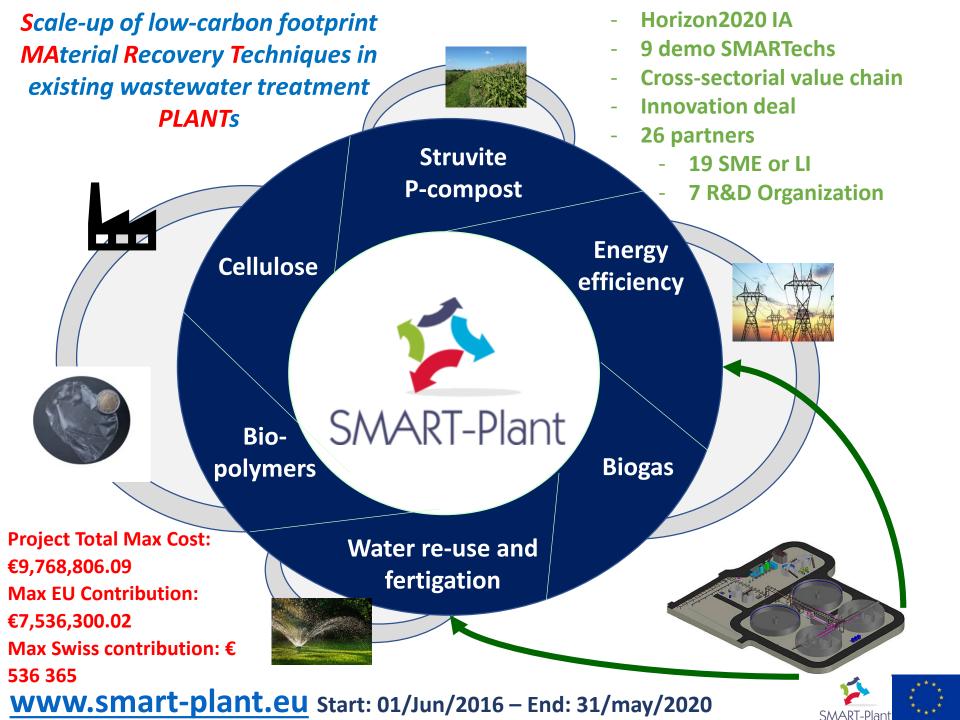
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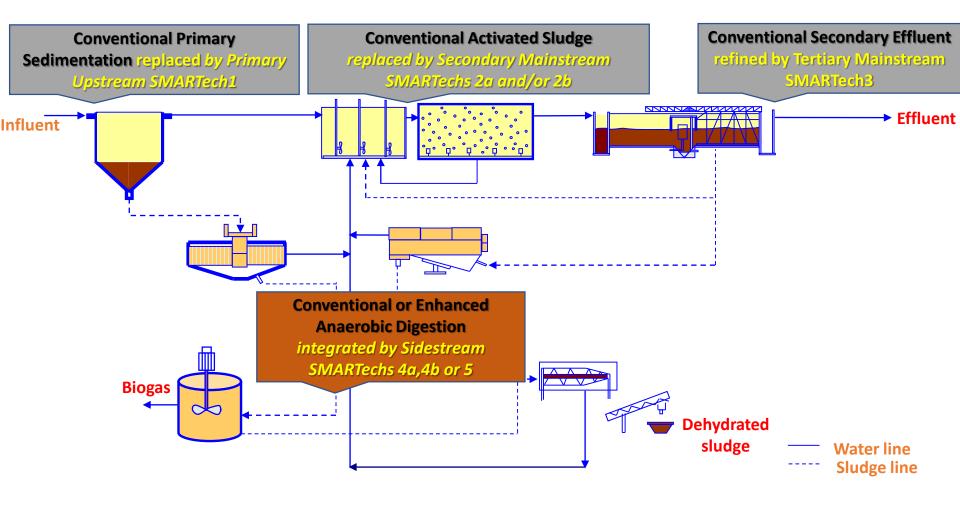




UNIVERSITÀ Politecnica Delle Marche



Quale approccio? Efficientare ed integrare l'esistente. Il recupero di materia è un valore aggiunto





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The SMART-Plant integrated WRRFs

		V	
SMARTech	Site	Key enabling process(es)	SMART-product(s)
1	Geestmerambac	Upstream dynamic fine-	Cellulosic sludge, refined clean
	ht (NL)	screen and post-processing of	cellulose
		cellulosic sludge	
2a	Karmiel (Israel)	Mainstream polyurethane-	Biogas, Energy-efficient water
		based anaerobic biofilter	reuse
2b	Manresa (ES)	Mainstream SCEPPHAR	P-rich sludge, PHA
3	Cranfield (UK)	Mainstream tertiary hybrid	Nutrients
		ion exchange	
4a	Carbonera (IT)	Sidestream	P-rich sludge, VFA
		SCENA+conventional AD	
4b	Psyttalia (GR)	Sidestream SCENA+enhanced	P-rich sludge
		AD	
5	Carbonera (IT)	Sidestream SCEPPHAR	PHA, struvite, VFA
Downstream	London (UK)	Formulation of recovered	Biocomposite (Sludge Plastic
SMARTechA		cellulosic and PHA	Composite – SPC)
		materials+extrusion	
Downstream	Manresa (ES)	Dynamic composting of P-rich	P-rich compost, enriched with
SMARTechB		sludge using minerals as	minerals; fuel for biomass plants
		bulking agents; bio-drying of	
		cellulosic sludge	
		·	-

SMARTech1: Primary (upstream) dynamic sieving and clean cellulose recovery

- 79% cellulose fiber,
- 5 % other organics,
- 6% inorganic (ash),
- 10% other contaminants (average in The Netherlands).
 Potentially marketable product, but the economic feasibility depends mainly on savings at the WWTP

Market development

Marketing and valorization of recovered cellulose

- ✓ Reuse in asphalt
- ✓ Raw material for composite (Brunel)
- Insulation materials (In development, not sure yet)





400 kg clean cellulose per day





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theguardian

SMARTech2a: Secondary mainstream enhanced biogas recovery by polyfoam biofilter

- 1. An innovative anaerobic immobilized polymeric biofilter.
- 2. Reaction volume -25 m³ designed and installed in the WWTP of Karmiel (North of Israel)
- 3. Characteristics:
- 100-120 m³/d.
- Removal of 30-40% of CODf
- Additional of 25% biogas
- Reduction of 25-30% energy consumption.
- 4. Operation optimization, monitoring and validation:
- biogas yield
- biomass activity
- treated effluent quality











SMARTech2b: Secondary mainstream SCEPPHAR



Manresa participa en un projecte europeu per dissenvar les depuradores del futur



Planta pilot pionera a la depuradora de Manresa

La instal·lació, emmarcada en el projecte Smart-Plant, permetrà la recuperació de productes alhora que depurarà les aigües

dos anys estarà en funcio-

Noemí Badrenas / TLB nament i seguidament els impulsors tindran un any La depuradora d'aigües de per fer balanç del projecte, Manresa-Sant Joan de Vique espera expandir-se arlatorrada va inaugurar reu un cop fetes les proves ahir una nova planta pilot pilot a Manresa. Segons que permetrà la recupera-ció de productes alhora l'investigador responsable de la planta, Juan Antonio que depurarà les aigües tractades. Es tracta d'una Baeza, aquesta instal·la-ció té com a objectiu deinstal·lació pionera al mostrar solucions ecoin novadores per modernitmón, segons asseguren els responsables, que s'emzar les estacions depura marca en el projecte Smart-Plan-impulsat per dores d'aigües residuals. En concret, el que es Aigües de Manresa i la Universitat Autònoma de busca és transformar e sistema de tractament de Barcelona- i hi col·laboles aigües utilitzant l'eco ren 26 socis de deu països nomia circular, és a dir europeus. que, a banda de depurar Aigües de Manresa s'ha les aigües, el procés per-meti també recuperar refet càrrec de la construcció de la planta, segons va explicar ahir Ricard Tocursos i convertir-los en productes comercialitza bles un cop processats. Entre els recursos recupe màs, director d'operacions de la companyia, arran de la invitació que els rats hi ha fòsfor, útil per va fer la UAB per sumar-se al projecte el 2016. Durant generar altres productes A tot això se suma l'es

talvi energètic i la reducció recursos", va dir Baeza de gasos d'efecte hiverna-La planta pilot, amb un cle; "El que volem demoscost d'uns 600,000 euros. tractarà 10 m⁹ diaris d'aitrar és que les depuradores poden ser molt més gües residuals -de 27.000 que això, convertint-se en m³ que es tracten al dia a la plantes de recuperació de depuradora.



LabICAB



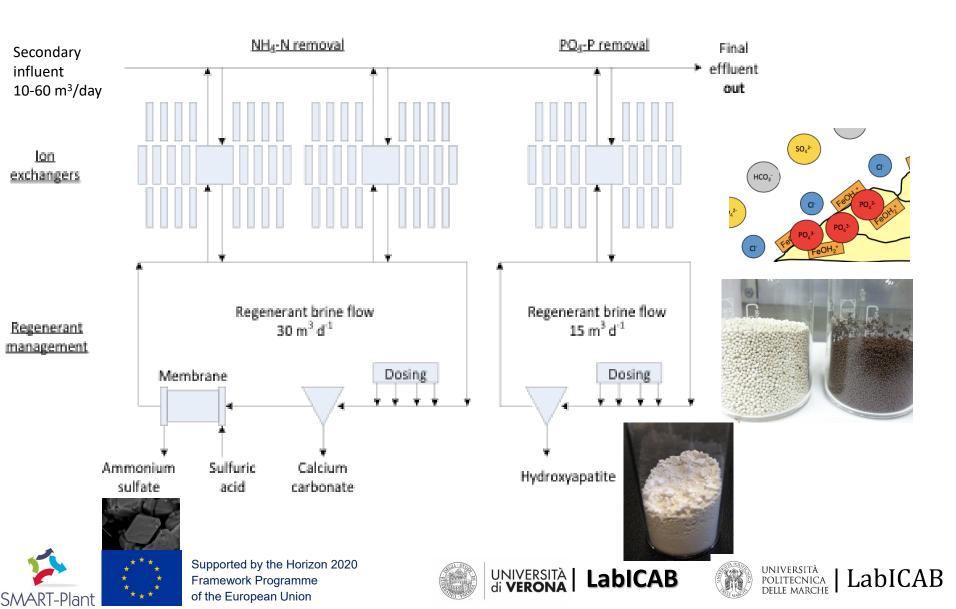
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SMARTech3: Tertiary mainstream nutrient recovery by mesolite and nano ion exchange



SMARTech5: via nitrite nitrogen removal and PHA recovery from cellulosic sludge



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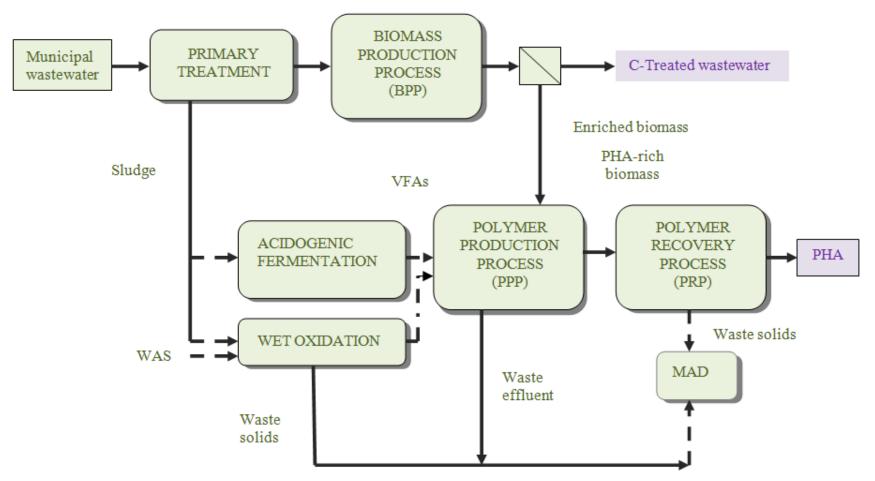








State of the art at TRL 7-8: Anoxkaldnes Cella™





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The «short-cut» SMART innovation:

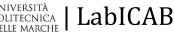
- Integrate the via-nitrite nitrogen removal with the PHA recovery \rightarrow major interest of the water utility
- Adopt anoxic (via-nitrite) conditions to optimize energy consumptions
- Phosphorus (struvite) recovery even to support the balance of nitrogen and phosphorus to the PHA recovery
- Use of cellulosic sludge from upstream concentration



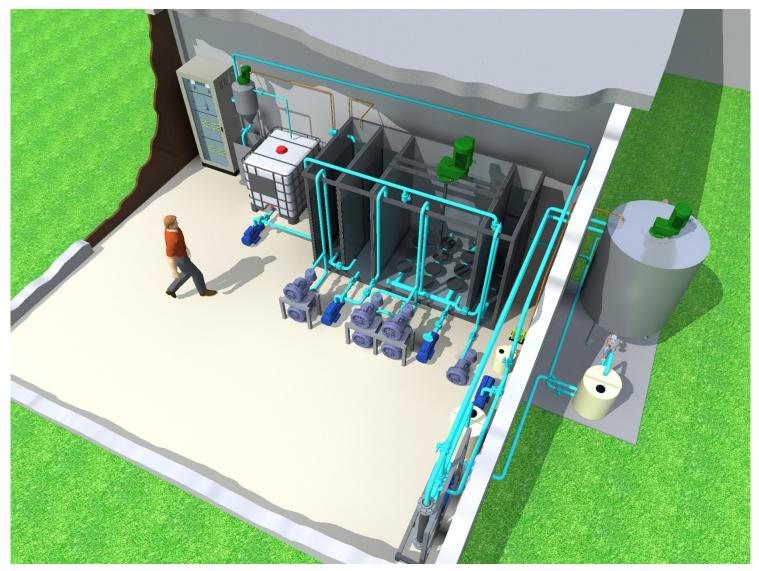








SMARTech5: sidestream S.C.E.P.P.H.A.R.





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SMARTech 5: Pilot Scale Carbonera WWTP





0.7 kgPHA and 0.3 kgStruvite per day



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The SMART bioprocesses in the Short-Cut Enhanced Nutrients Abatement (S.C.E.N.A.) for P recovery and N removal

- Production of propionate-rich SCFA from cellulosic sludge
- Nitritation in aerobic conditions (so as to also minimize N₂O emissions)
- Denitritation and anoxic EBPR
- Sequencing Batch Reactor
- > Control Automation on the basis of pH, ORP and conductivity



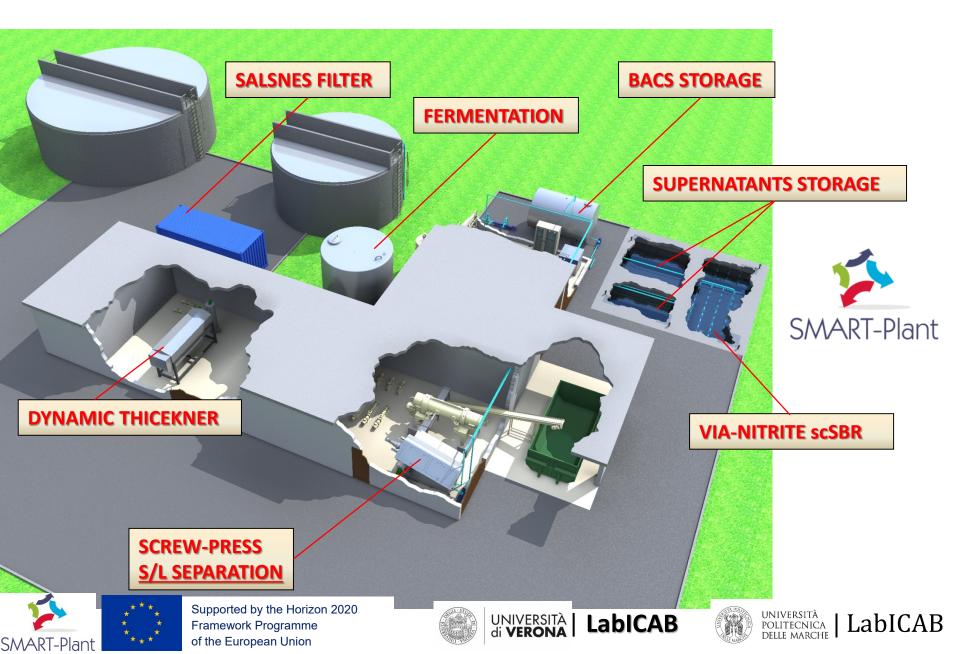








S.M.A.R.T. PLANT - CARBONERA



Full scale SCENA in Carbonera





Supported by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union 80-120 m3/d treated



THERMAL HYDROLYSIS - S.C.E.N.A. IN PSEYTTALIA





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Demo scale TH-SCENA in Athens





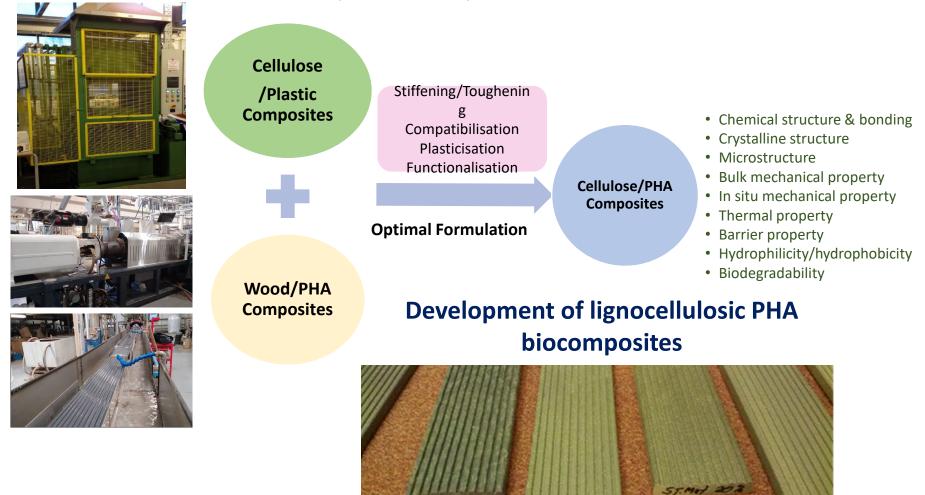
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Post-processing of recovered cellulose and PHA for biocomposites production





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Post-precessing of cellulosic and P-rich sludges and agronomic field validation

+ (Tech· 1) Cellulosic sludge PILOT PLANT COMPOSTING

(Tech· 4a)P-rich sludge / (Tech·3) Highnutrient content mesolites







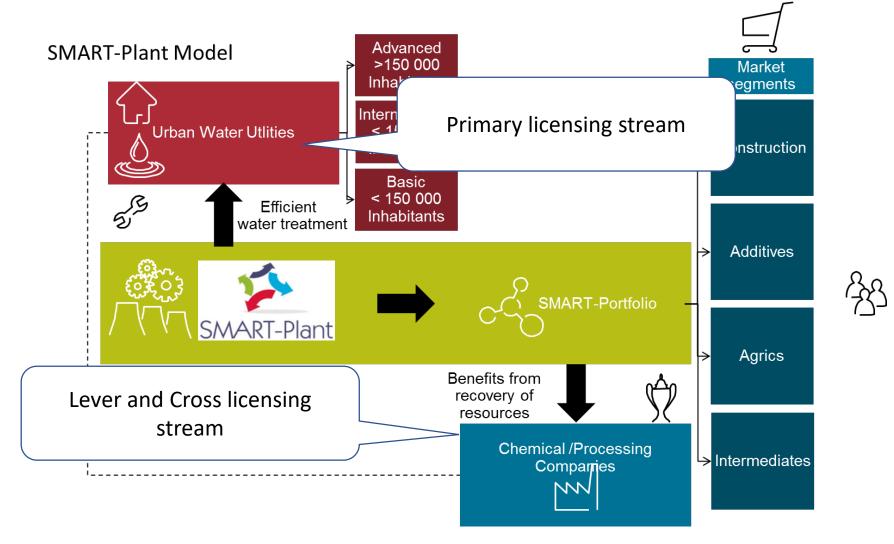
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SMART-Plant Business plan and market deployment strategy





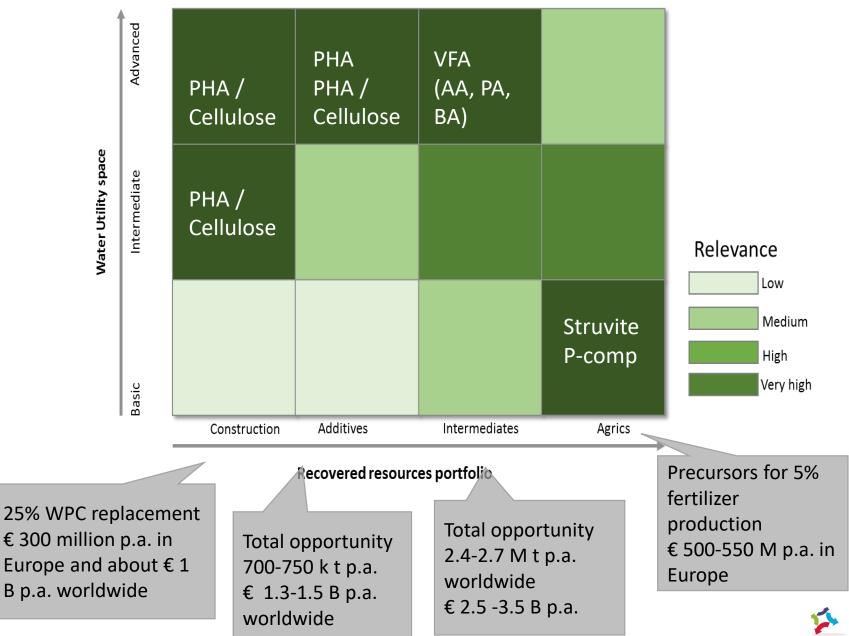
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End use for recovered resources fit to water utility plants





Main SMART-Plant barriers towards the closed cycle

- Regulatory barriers
- Market uptake
- Customer acceptance and public perception
- Stability of the secondary raw material and chemicals characteristics
- Water utility sceptical approach towards innovation and circular economy











SMART-Plant in the 1st Innovation Deal

https://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-deals/index.cfm

Addressing the harriers for water reuse with the EC Supported by the Horizon 2020 UNIVERSITÀ POLITECNICA DELLE MARCHE

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SMART-Plant







SMART-Plant: we turn to golden the brown side of water

Thank you for your attention







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