

Treviso, 08 Febbraio 2018

**L'azione di innovazione
Horizon2020 SMART-Plant:
focus su valorizzazione fanghi per
rimozione azoto via-nitrato,
recupero di fosforo o biopolimeri**

Francesco Fatone and SMART-Plant Consortium



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



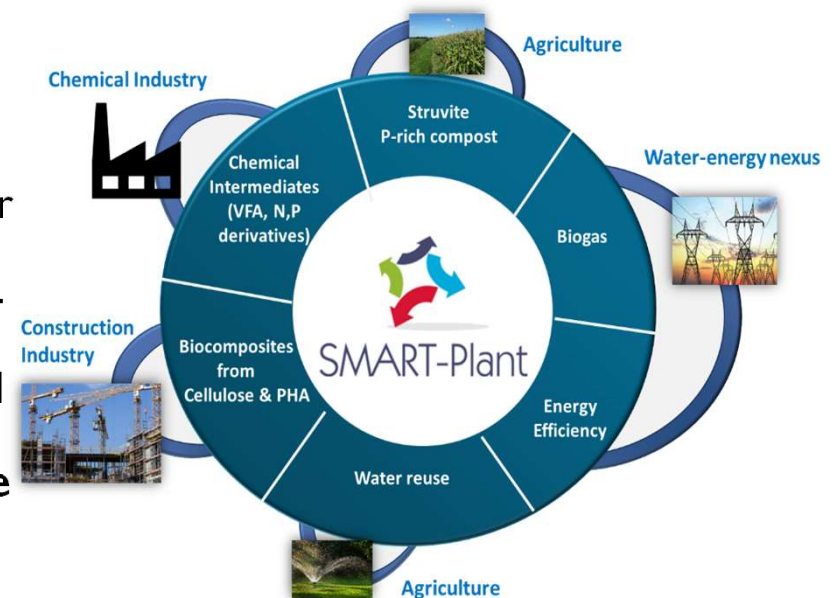


Chapters of the presentation

1. **SMART-Plant: Scale-up of low-carbon footprint Material Recovery Techniques for upgrading existing wastewater treatment Plants → overview of the Innovation Action**
2. **Focus on the Carbonera SMARTechs: S.C.E.N.A. and S.C.E.P.P.H.A.R. systems**

SMART-Plant general objective and vision

To validate and to address to the market a portfolio of **n.9 eco-innovative solutions** (the SMARTechnologies) that, singularly or combined, can renovate and upgrade existing municipal wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) to water resource recovery facilities (WRRFs). In particular, SMART-Plant aims at **reducing the energy and environmental footprint and, contemporary, at recovering valuable materials** (the SMART-Products: water, cellulose, biopolymers, nutrients) **that are valued in construction, chemical and agriculture supply chain**





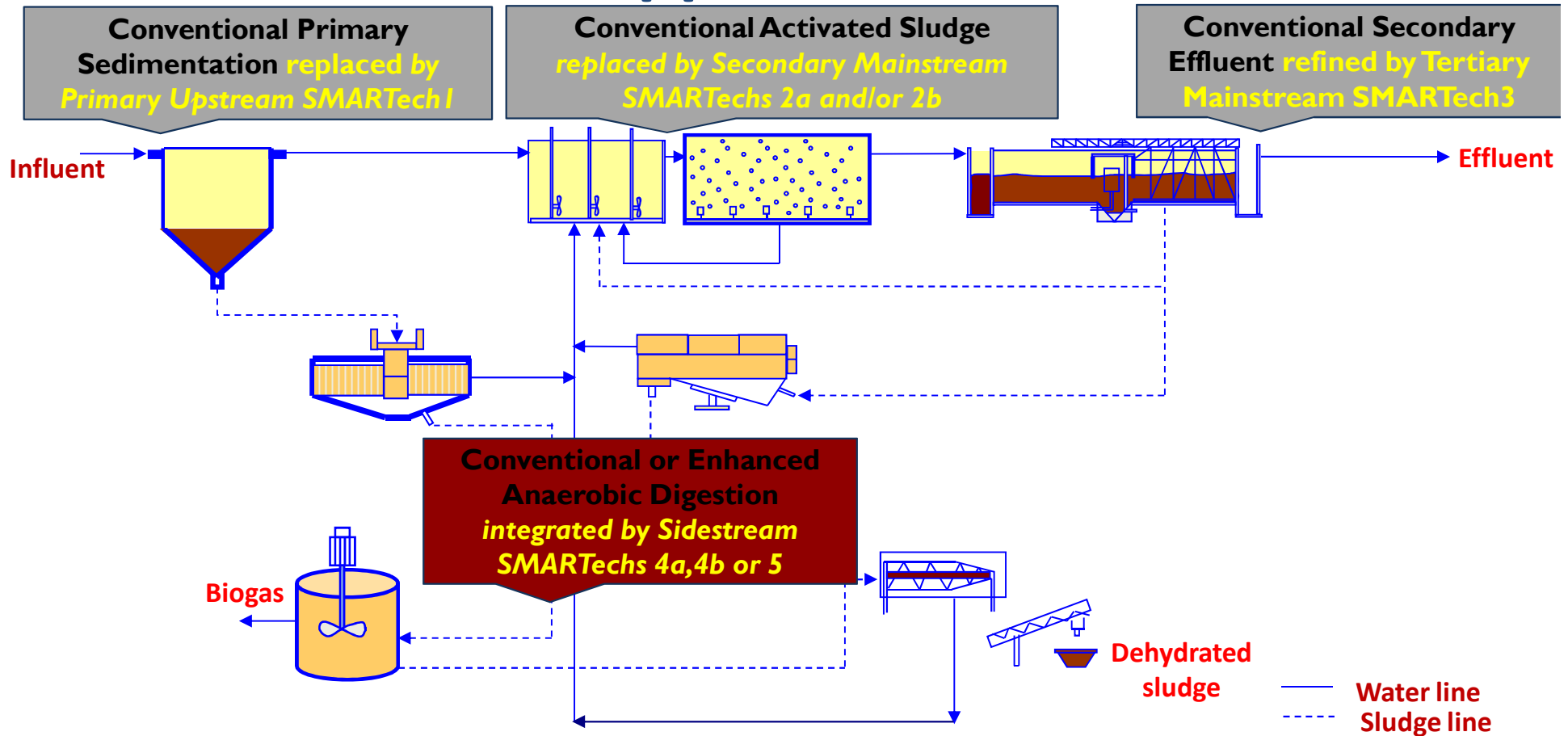
SMART-Plant partners

- 8 Research Organisations
- 11+1 Technology/Service Providers
- 6 Water utilities

Main SMART-Plant interactions in Europe



SMART-Plant approach and SMARTechs



The existing WWTPs 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 anaerobic biofilter	Biogas, Energy-efficient water reuse
2b	Manresa (Spain)	Mainstream SCEPPHAR	P-rich sludge, PHA
3	Cranfield (UK)	Mainstream tertiary hybrid ion exchange	Nutrients
4a	Carbonera (Italy)	Sidestream SCENA	P-rich sludge, VFA
4b	Psytalia (Greece)	Sidestream Thermal hydrolysis – SCENA	P-rich sludge
5	Carbonera (Italy)	Sidestream SCEPPHAR	PHA, struvite, VFA

Primary dynamic sieving and clean cellulose recovery

2009-2015: Several pilot scale implementations at real environment

SMART-Plant



2016-2020: Development and optimization of demo with capacity of 8400 m³/d producing approx 2,00 360 kg/d cellulose



- Create a constant stream of re-used cellulose, by a validated process
- Validated application of sustainable re-use
- Develop other applications (Bio-composites, insulation material)

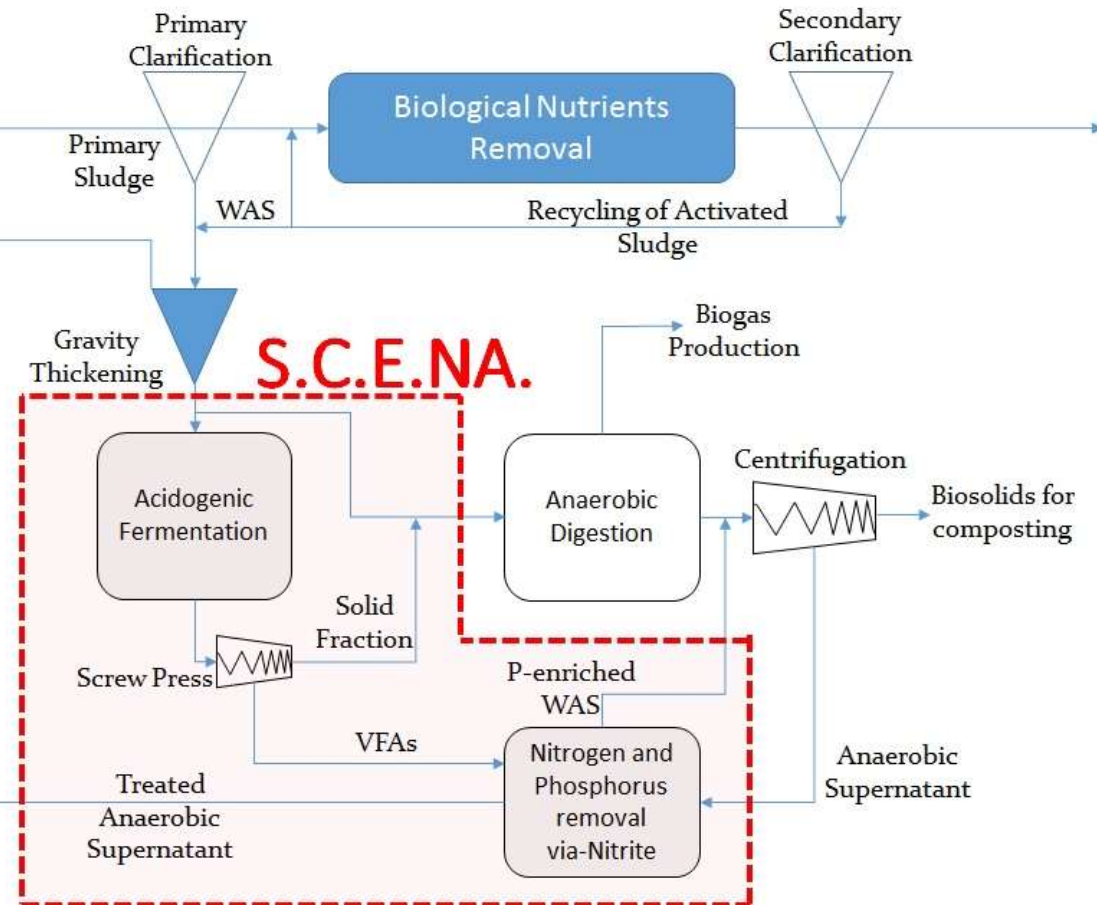


Short-cut enhanced nutrients abatement to treat sludge liquors

2011-2013: Lab
scale SCENA
process in
Verona (30 L)



2014-2016: Pilot scale SCENA
process in Carbonera (3 m³)



SCENA application at demo scale

Carbonera WWTP
100 m³/d reject water



SCENA bridging
the gap between
small pilot
application and
large demo or
even full scale
application in real
environment

- Validate and demonstrate that SCENA is an effective and low carbon footprint process for nutrient removal/recovery

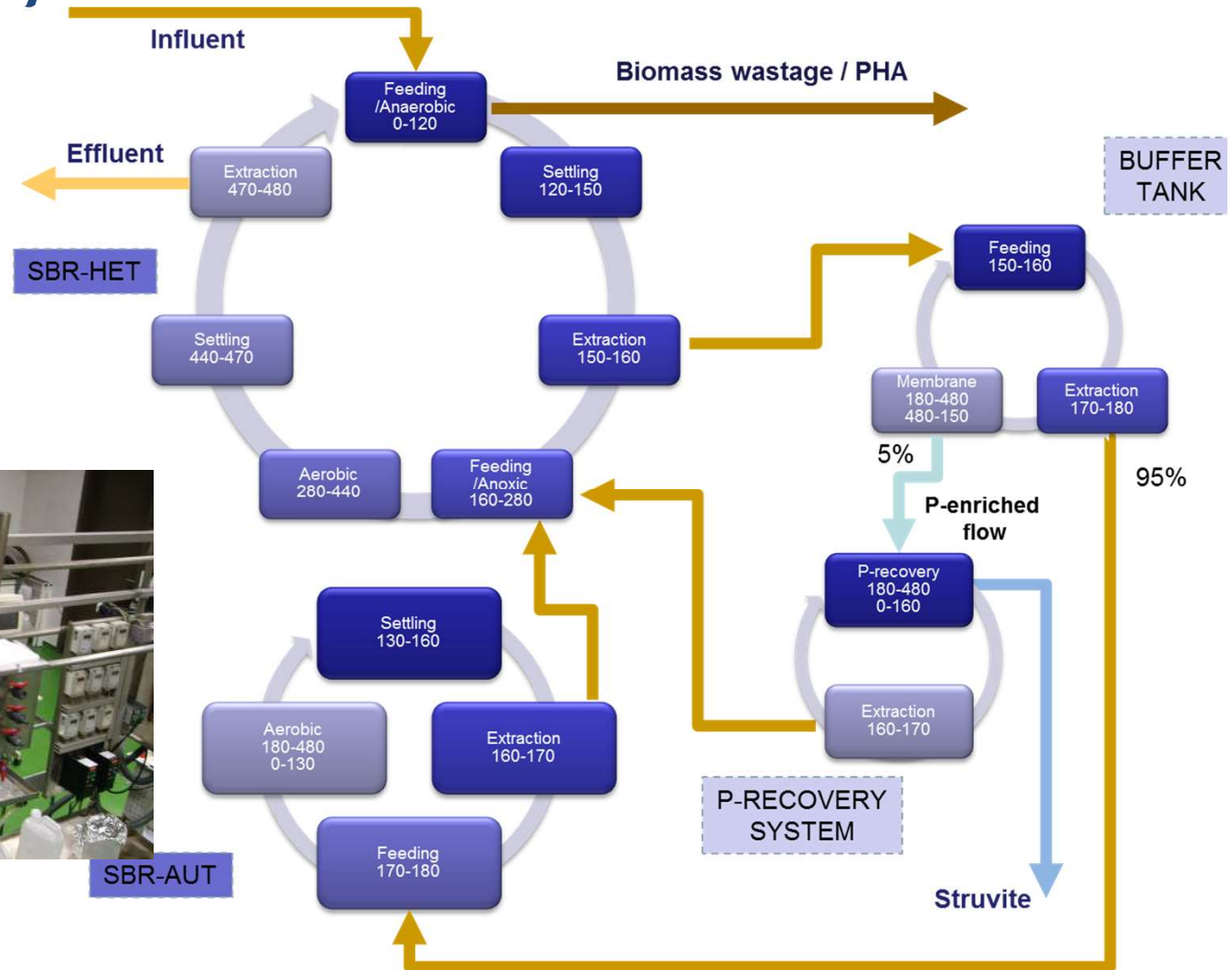
Psyttalia WWTP
2-3 m³/d reject water



Secondary mainstream SCEPPHAR

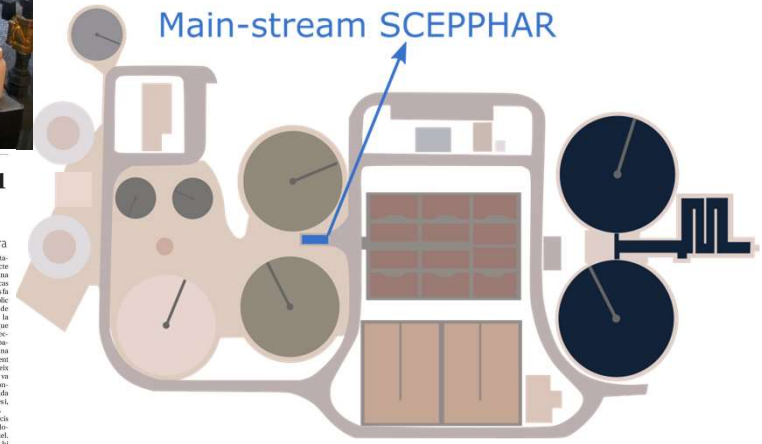
- Two SBR
- Buffer tank
- P-recovery system

2004-2010: Lab scale testing (10 L & 100 L)



Mainstream SCEPPHAR application in SMART-Plant

- Implementation in a full-scale WWTP
- Much higher volume
- Real WWTP operation (temperature, sewage)
- Full-scale equipment and automation



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

► L'equipament d'Algües de Manresa generarà productes de valor afegit que extraurà de l'aigua al mateix temps que es depura

Jordi Morros
MANRESA

■ Les depuradores del futur no tan sols seran equipaments que tractin algües residuals i tornen-les netes al riu. També recuperaran components que hi ha a l'aigua i es convertiran en productes de màxim valor afegit.

A Manresa aquest procés ja ha començat. La depuradora d'Algües de Manresa participa en un projecte europeu al mateix nom que la Unió Europea ha finançat amb gairebé 10 milions d'euros per generar aquests nous productes a la vegada que depura l'aigua. El projecte, Smart Plant, el lidera l'Autoritat de Barcelona.

«Hi ha molts llargs plans pilots que poden dur a terme aquest procés. És en el cas de la capital del litoral que s'ha començat a desenvolupar per a solució d'algües que hi ha en microorganismes de l'aigua, material que es pot utilitzar per a objectes de decoració o altres usos».

Així es va fer la presentació del projecte a la mateixa instal·lació de la depuradora. A l'acte hi van intervenir el viceconseller d'Innovació i Projectes Estratègics de la UAB, Jaume de la Fuente, el director d'Operacions d'Algües de Manresa, Jordi Morros, la cap d'operacions de l'Agència Catalana de l'Aigua, Elisabet Mas, el primer tinent d'alcalde de l'Ajuntament de Manresa, Marc Alayó, i de la Fuente va explicar que una universitat pública del litoral té de dur a terme accions que impactin en la societat. Aquesta és una, va assegurar, perquè permet anar cap a les depuradores del futur. «Canviem el paradigma: veiem que permet recuperar productes i a més a més generar energia en lloc de consumir energia».

Mas va donar suport a la iniciativa de Jordi Morros. «Torna a recordar que Algües de Manresa sempre ha apostat per la innovació i la recerca».

Alayó, per la seva part, va destacar que es tracta d'un projecte clau en el qual participa una empresa municipal. En aquest cas, Algües de Manresa. «No només té la gestió bàsica d'un servei públic sinó que afronta nous reptes de desenvolupament». Durant la seva intervenció va assegurar que gràcies a l'evolució científica, tecnològica i de recerca, un equipament que es va concebre amb una missió determinada, el tractament d'algües residuals, es converteix en una fàbrica de recursos. Ho va posar en context amb el concepte d'economia circular, basada en el reciclatge de materials i, per tant, la reducció de residus.

A l'acte hi van participar més de 100 persones, entre els quals Elisabet Mas, Jaume de la Fuente i Jordi Morros. En cadascun d'aquests punts hi ha una planta pilot com la de depuradora. La investigació a Manresa s'està desenvolupant des de fa uns anys, amb un cost de més de 10 milions de la Unió Europea, 200.000 euros de l'Ajuntament de Manresa, que es farà a la planta pilot que en fa el manteniment. La resta, 200.000 euros, la gestiona la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona per contractar el personal que s'encarrega de la investigació».

Post-processing of recovered cellulose and PHA for bio-composites production



**Cellulose
/Plastic
Composites**



**Wood/PHA
Composites**

Stiffening/Toughening
Compatibilisation
Plasticisation
Functionalisation

Optimal Formulation

**Cellulose/PHA
Composites**

- Chemical structure & bonding
- Crystalline structure
- Microstructure
- Bulk mechanical property
- In situ mechanical property
- Thermal property
- Barrier property
- Hydrophilicity/hydrophobicity
- Biodegradability

Development of lignocellulosic PHA biocomposites



SMART-Plant benefits

Category	Main Benefits
Technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Validate and demonstrate that technologies are working well at real conditions and at demo scale • Technology Verification • Solving real operating problems
Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low carbon footprint through online recording of energy and GHG emissions
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social acceptance of derived materials • Improved water utility reputation through the use of advance technologies and '<i>green and circular feedstock</i>'
Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost-efficiency • Impact on water tariff • Circular inter-sectorial value chain with chemical, agricultural and construction sectors

SMART-Plant exploitation matrix and heat map



Focus on via-nitrite nitrogen removal, phosphorus or biopolymers recovery in Carbonera sewage sludge treatment line



European Sustainable
Phosphorus Platform

KNW Waternetwerk symposium "Resource recovery, just do it?", Wageningen, 9th

November 2017 - 1

www.phosphorusplatform.eu

Nutrient recovery from wastewater: opportunities & challenges of EU regulatory context

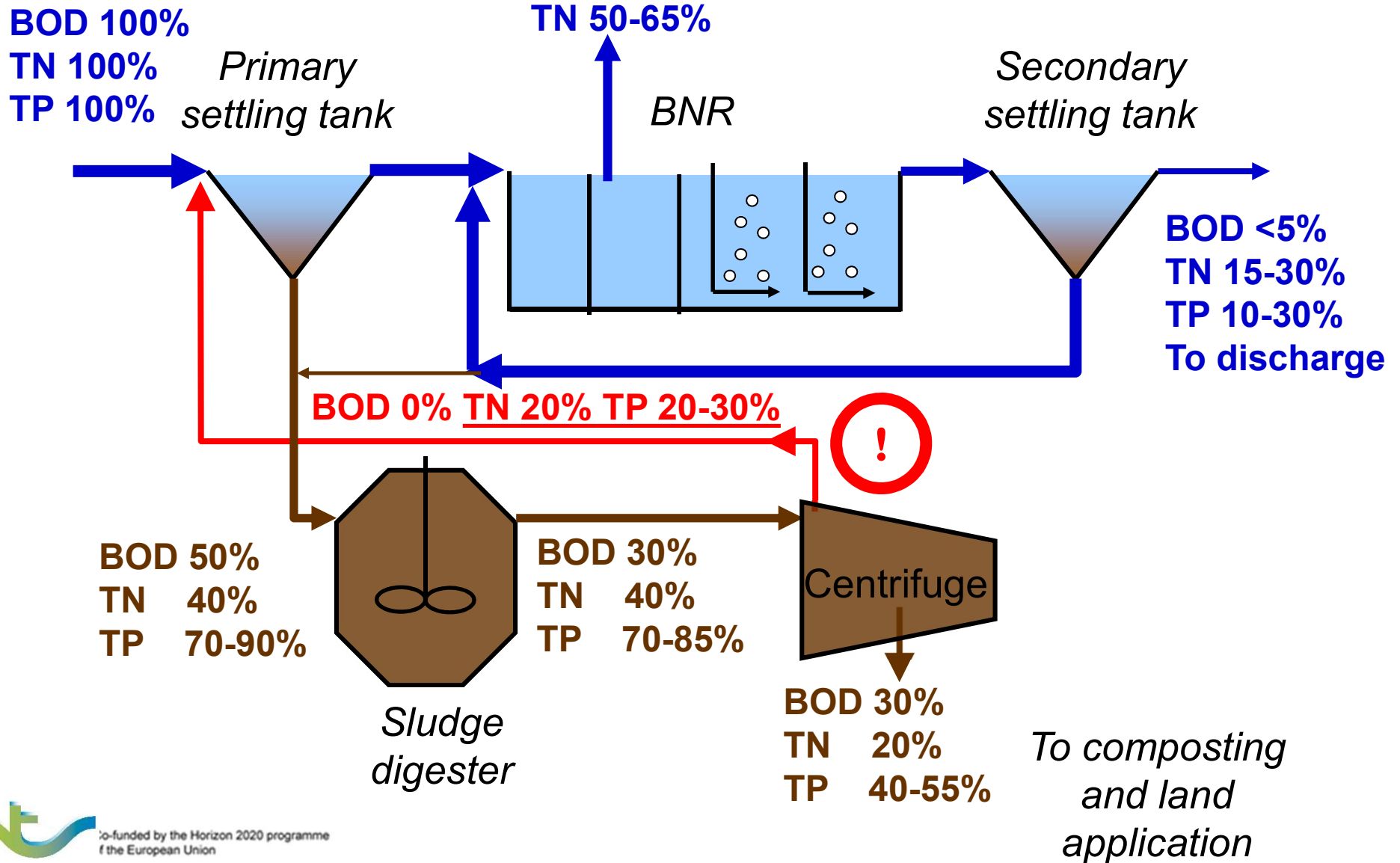
Kimo van Dijk, European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform (ESPP)

kimovandijk@phosphorusplatform.eu



BNR AND ANAEROBIC DIGESTION

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WHEN SLUDGE THERMAL HYDROLYSIS IS APPLIED...

AMMONIA CONCENTRATION IN DIGESTERS

DIGESTER FEED DRY SOLIDS % w/w	DIGESTER AMMONIA CONCENTRATION (mg/l)															
	50%	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%
VS DESTRUCTION	50%	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%
3.5	850	850	850	900	900	900	950	950	950	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,100
4.0	950	950	1,000	1,000	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,150	1,150	1,150	1,200	1,200	1,250
4.5	1,050	1,100	1,100	1,150	1,150	1,150	1,200	1,200	1,250	1,250	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,350	1,350	1,400
5.0	1,200	1,200	1,250	1,250	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,350	1,350	1,400	1,400	1,450	1,450	1,500	1,500	1,550
5.5	1,300	1,300	1,350	1,350	1,400	1,450	1,450	1,500	1,500	1,550	1,550	1,600	1,600	1,650	1,650	1,700
6.0	1,400	1,450	1,450	1,500	1,550	1,550	1,600	1,600	1,650	1,650	1,700	1,700	1,750	1,800	1,800	1,850
6.5	1,550	1,550	1,600	1,600	1,650	1,700	1,700	1,750	1,750	1,800	1,850	1,850	1,900	1,900	1,950	2,000
7.0	1,650	1,700	1,700	1,750	1,800	1,800	1,850	1,850	1,900	1,950	1,950	2,000	2,050	2,050	2,100	2,150
7.5	1,750	1,800	1,850	1,850	1,900	1,950	1,950	2,000	2,050	2,050	2,100	2,150	2,200	2,200	2,250	2,300
8.0	1,900	1,900	1,950	2,000	2,050	2,050	2,100	2,150	2,150	2,200	2,250	2,300	2,300	2,350	2,400	2,450
8.5	2,000	2,050	2,050	2,100	2,150	2,200	2,250	2,250	2,300	2,350	2,400	2,450	2,450	2,500	2,550	2,600
9.0	2,100	2,150	2,200	2,250	2,300	2,300	2,350	2,400	2,450	2,500	2,550	2,550	2,600	2,650	2,700	2,750
9.5	2,200	2,250	2,300	2,350	2,400	2,450	2,500	2,550	2,600	2,600	2,650	2,700	2,750	2,800	2,850	2,900
10.0	2,350	2,400	2,450	2,500	2,550	2,550	2,600	2,650	2,700	2,750	2,800	2,850	2,900	2,950	3,000	3,050
10.5	2,450	2,500	2,550	2,600	2,650	2,700	2,750	2,800	2,850	2,900	2,950	3,000	3,050	3,100	3,150	3,200
11.0	2,550	2,600	2,650	2,700	2,800	2,850	2,900	2,950	3,000	3,050	3,100	3,150	3,200	3,250	3,300	3,350

CONVENTIONAL

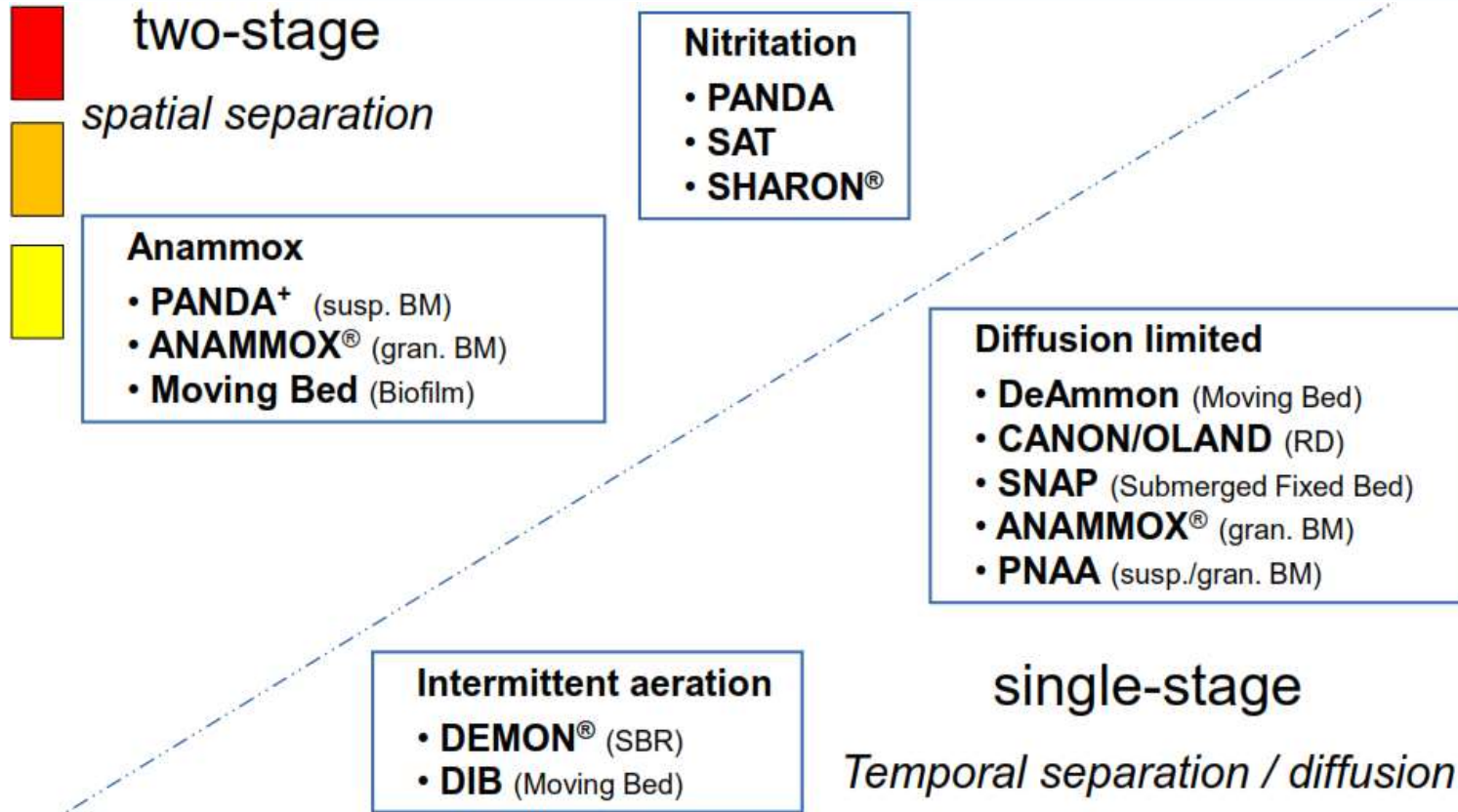
THP

2.500 – 3.000 mgN-NH₄/l



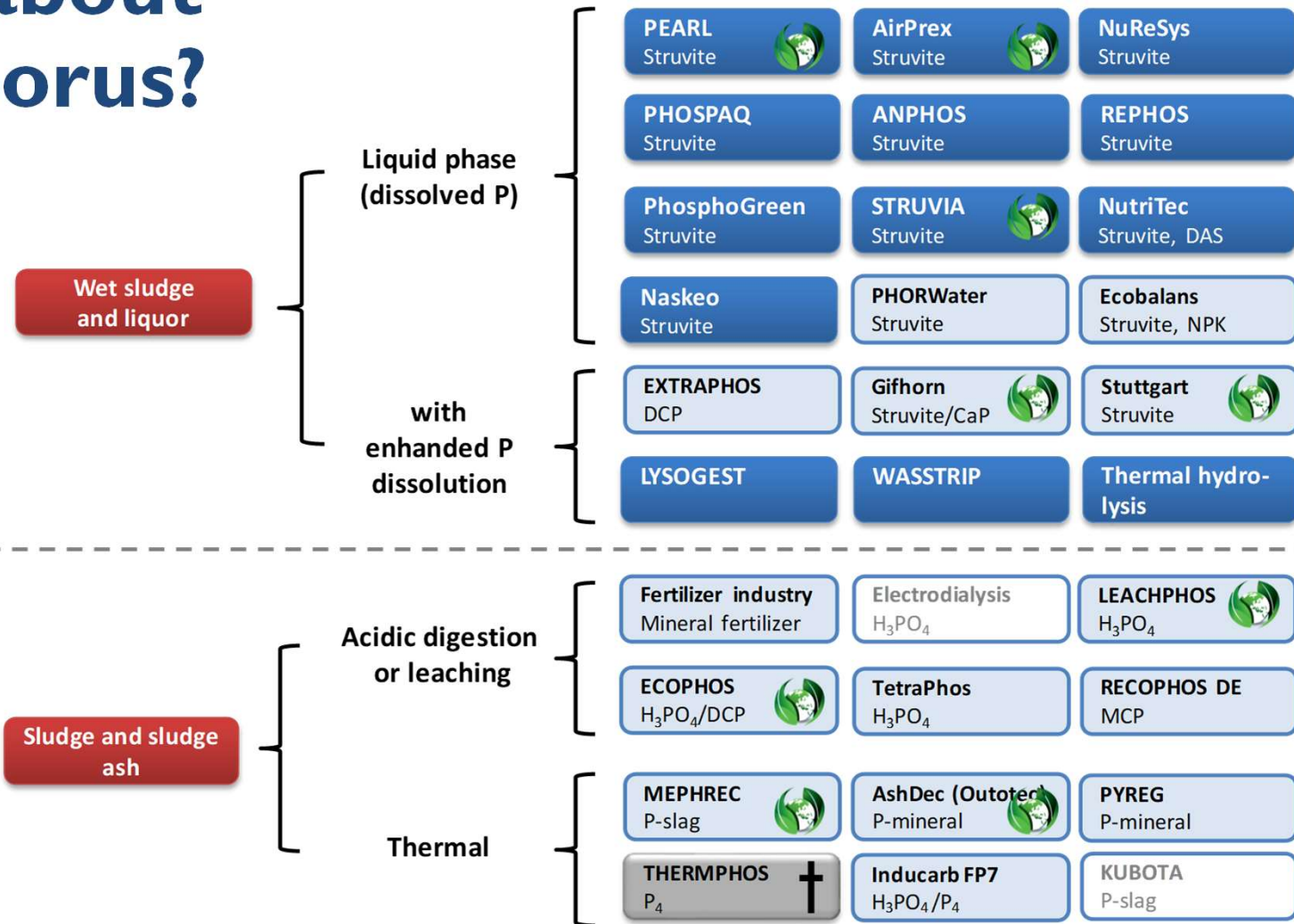
NITROGEN AUTOTROPHIC REMOVAL? OFTEN THE BEST SOLUTION.

SM

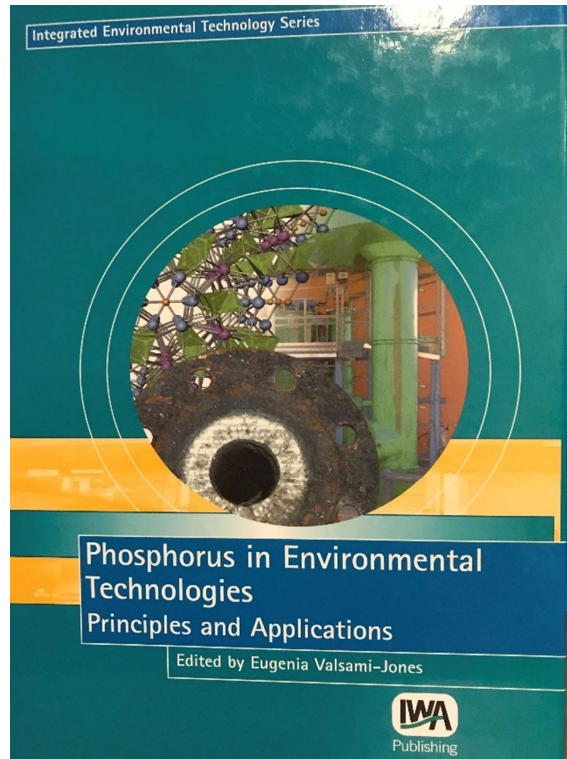


More than 100 full scale plants for side-stream treatment

What about phosphorus?



Once upon a time...



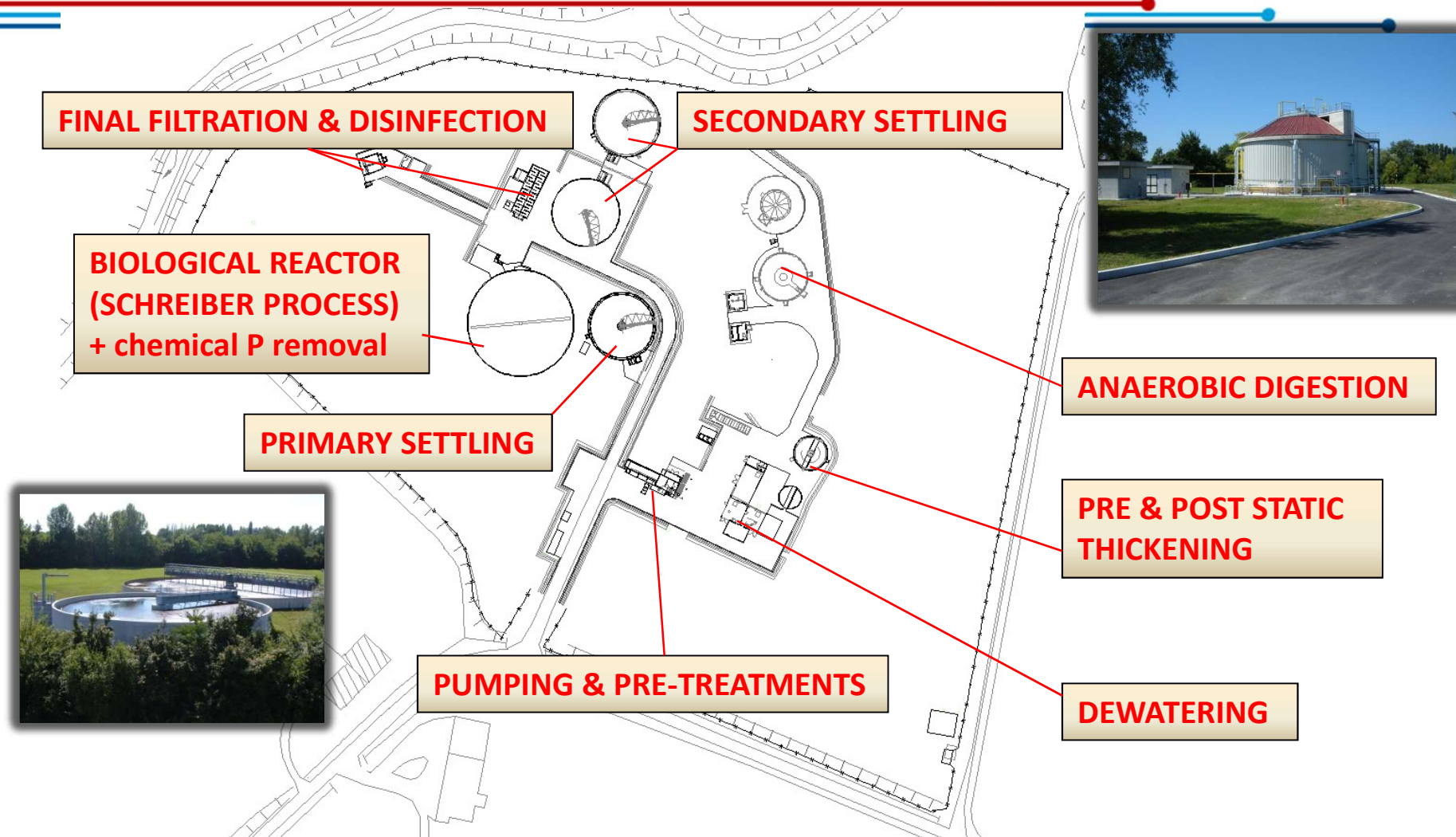
First published 2004
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Phosphorus in Environmental
Technologies
Principles and Applications

**The P recovery full scale plant in the cover is located in
TREVISO municipal wastewater treatment plant
CONSTRUCTED AND COMMISSIONED ABOUT 15 YEARS
AGO**

MADE IN ITALY



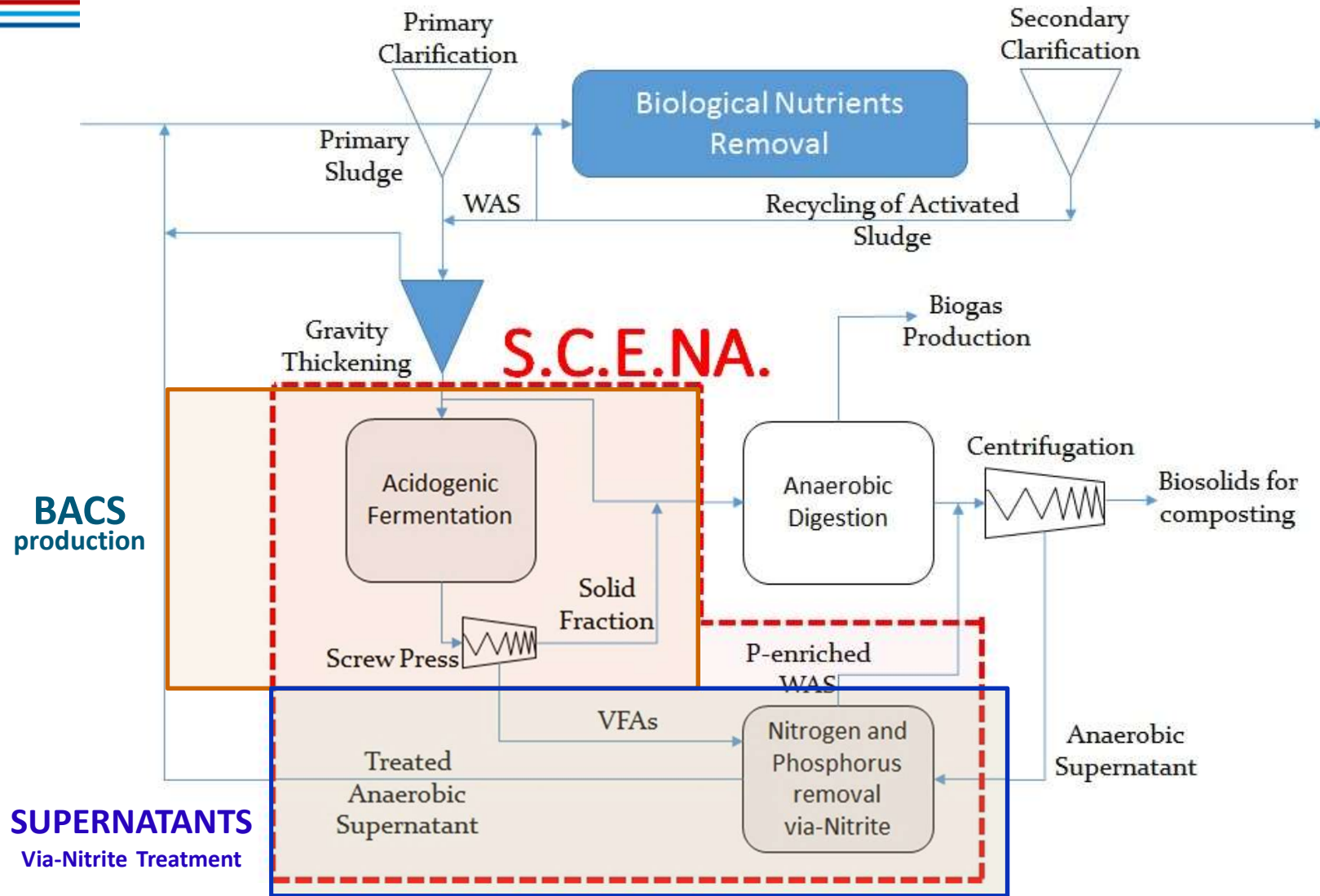


CARBONERA WWTP – 40.000 PE

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
- Nitrification in aerobic conditions (so as to also minimize N₂O emissions)
- Denitrification and anoxic EBPR
- Sequencing Batch Reactor
- Control Automation on the basis of pH, ORP and conductivity

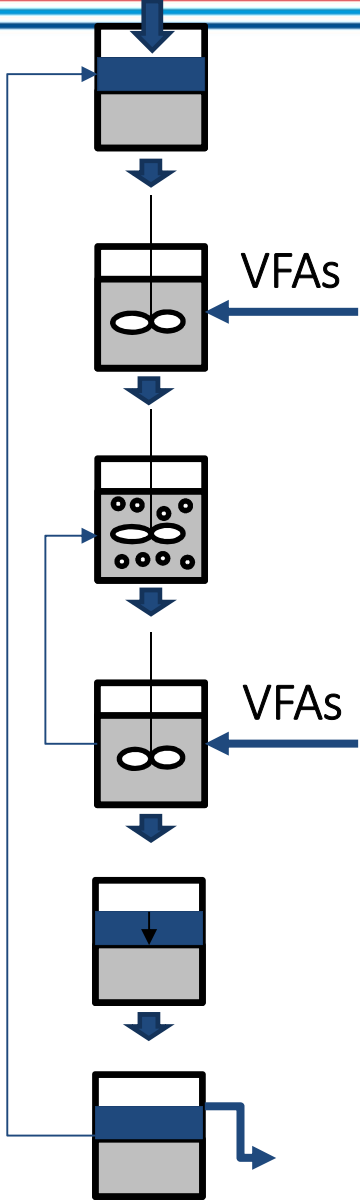
S.C.E.N.A. SYSTEM



S.C.E.N.A. SBR BASIC CYCLE

SM

Nitrogen &
Phosphorus
Biological
removal



1- Filling (5 min)

2- Anaerobic (60 min)
BACS Carbon source addition

3- Aerobic (180 - 200 min)

4- Anoxic (45 min)
BACS Carbon source addition

5- Settling (40 min)

6- Discharge (10 min)



SC-SBR VIA-NITRITE OPTIMIZATION LOGIC CONTROL

DATA CYCLE

IDENTIFICATION OF FAULTS

PROFILES SIGNAL PROCESSED

INTELLIGENT CONTROL SYSTEM

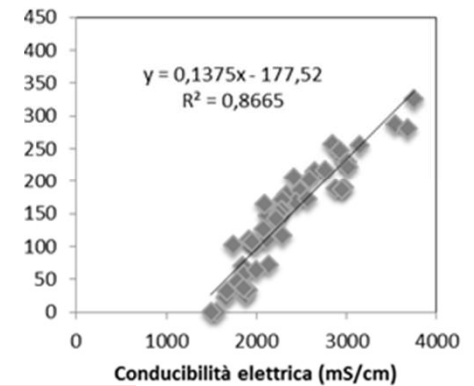
RESULTS: CONTROL POINTS OF IDENTIFICATION

MOVE TO THE NEXT STEP

ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY

DISSOLVED OXYGEN

pH



% Ntot removal

N-NO₂ production

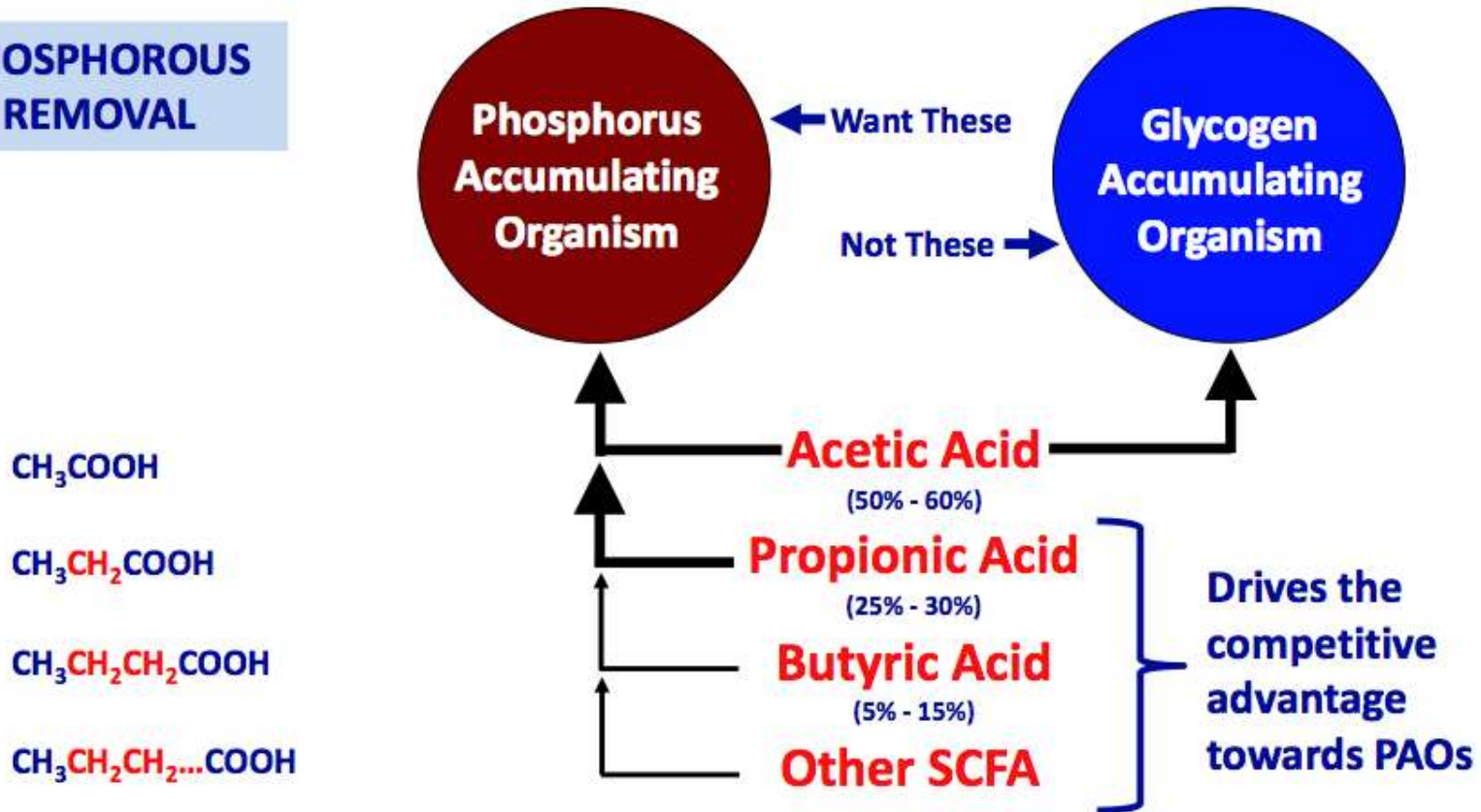
**Dosage BACS
for N&P biological
removal**



BACS: A MIXTURE OF SCFAS FOR DENITRATION&EPBR

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PHOSPHOROUS
REMOVAL



Fermentation promotes production of acetate
and propionate as primary by-products

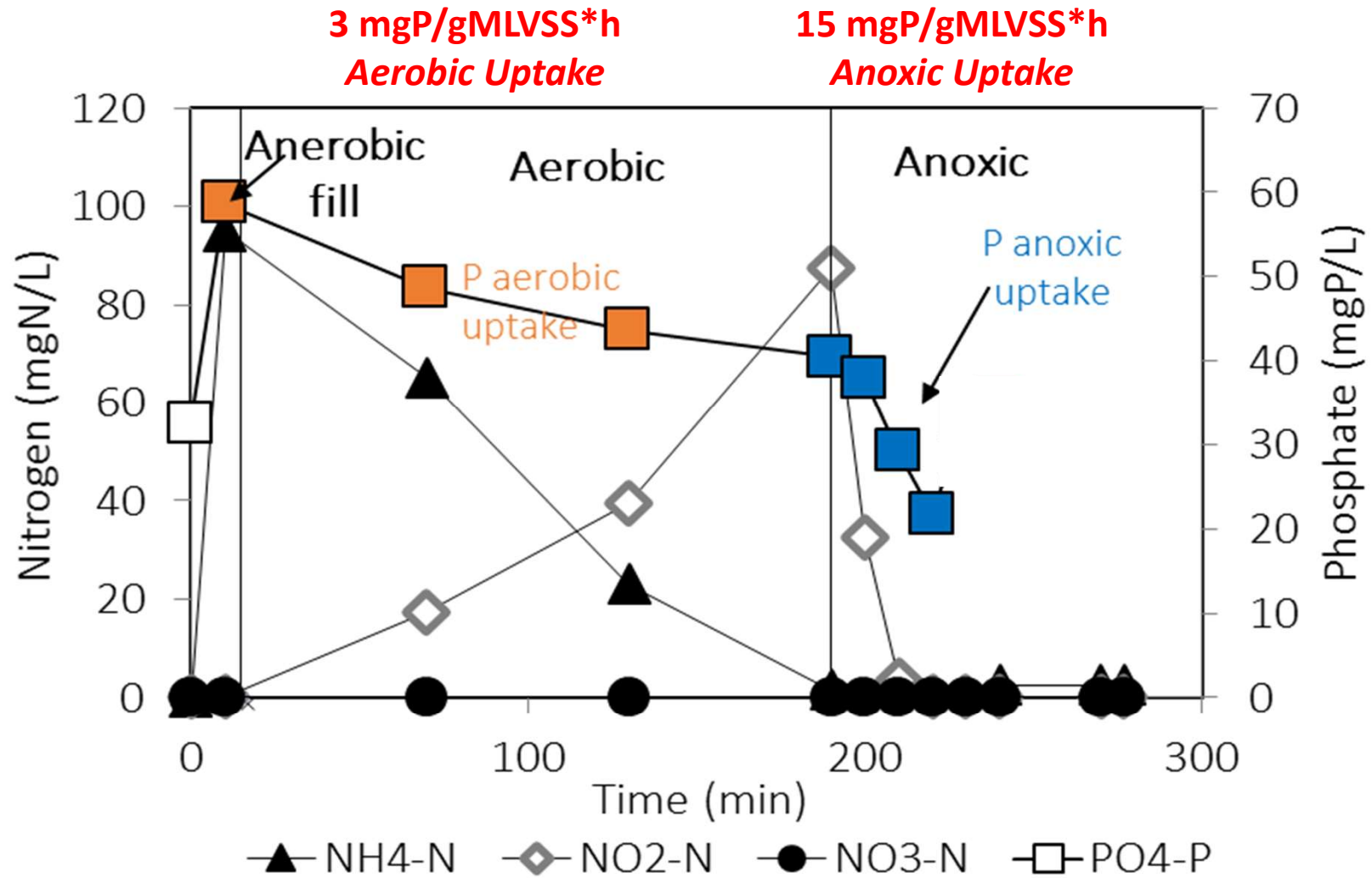
Zeng, et al (2006)
Bouzas, et al (2000)



Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme
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S.C.E.N.A. NITROGEN & PHOSPHORUS REMOVAL CYCLE

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S.C.E.N.A. NITROGEN REMOVAL KINETICS

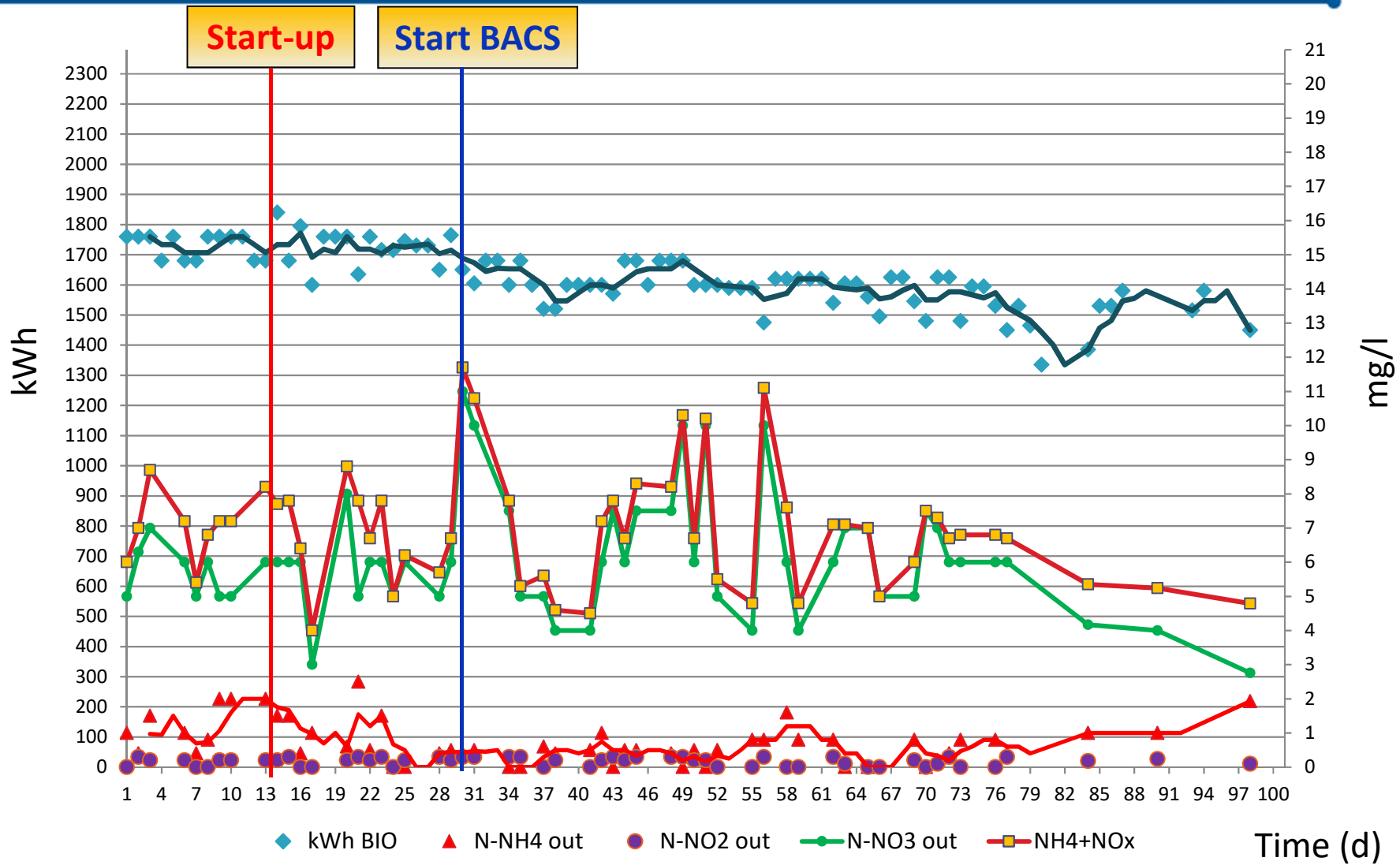
BACS dosage is automatically dosed during ANEROBIC phase and than during ANOXIC phase: the denitritation phase of the scSBR operation to remove nitrite and in the same time phosphorus.

CARBONERA S.C.E.N.A. SBR	
SPECIFIC NUTRIENTS REMOVAL RATES - (T = 20 °C)	
sAUR (mgN/gVSS*h)	12 - 15
sNUR _{BACS} (mgN/gVSS*h)	35 - 40

CARBONERA WWTP MAIN LINE	
SPECIFIC NUTRIENTS REMOVAL RATES - (T = 20 °C)	
sAUR (mgN/gVSS*h)	1.5 – 2.5
sNUR (mgN/gVSS*h)	5 - 6

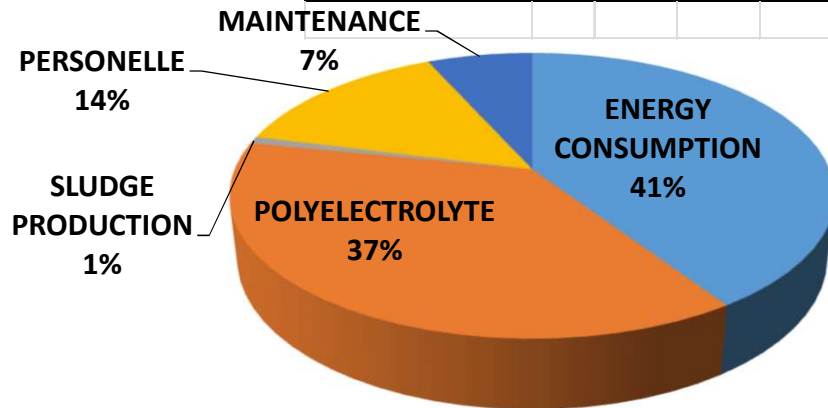
CARBONERA WWTP MAIN LINE...FIRST RESULTS

SM



SPECIFIC OPEX FOR SUPERNATANT TREATMENT AFTER 9 MONTHS OPERATION

LOAD = 29 kgN/d								€/kgN rem...+ Prem
ENERGY CONSUMPTION						kWh/d	90	€ 0,61
STORAGE SUPERNATANT						kWh/d	9,6	11%
Storage mixer	kW	1,6	h/d	6	kwh/d	9,6		11%
SBR						kWh/d	59	65%
Load pump	kW	1,8	h/d	0,4	kwh/d	0,8		0,8%
Discharge pump	kW	1,35	h/d	0,8	kwh/d	1,1		1,3%
Mixer SBR	kW	1,4	h/d	7,3	kwh/d	10,3		11,4%
Air Blower	kW	3,7	h/d	12,6	kwh/d	46,6		51,7%
FERMENTER						kWh/d	12	13%
Fermenter Mixer	kW	0,5	h	24	kwh/d	12		13,3%
Heating System	kW	0	h	24	kwh/d	0		0,0%
S/LSEPARATOR						kWh/d	10	11%
Sludge load pump	kW	0,35	h/d	6	kwh/d	2,1		2,3%
Screw Press	kW	0,3	h/d	6	kwh/d	1,8		2,0%
BACS pump to storage	kW	1	h/d	2	kwh/d	2		2,2%
Poly pump	kW	0,32	h/d	6	kwh/d	1,92		2,1%
BACS dosage pump	kW	1,4	h/d	1,4	kwh/d	1,9591837		2,2%
POLYELECTROLYTE DOSAGE						kg/d	9,5	€ 0,56
Dosage solution poly-water	lt/h	300	h/d	6	lt/d	1800		
Dosage poly	% vol	0,5%	kg/l	1,05	kg/d	9,45		
SLUDGE PRODUCTION						kg/d	4,0	€ 0,01
PERSONELLE								€ 0,21
MAINTENANCE								€ 0,10
								€ 1,49



1,49 €/kgN rem...+ Prem

Carbonera WWTP

3,4 €/kgN rem

reduction of supernatants OPEX – 56%

Optimizing at 50 kgN/d → 1,0 - 1,2 €/ kgN rem...+ Prem



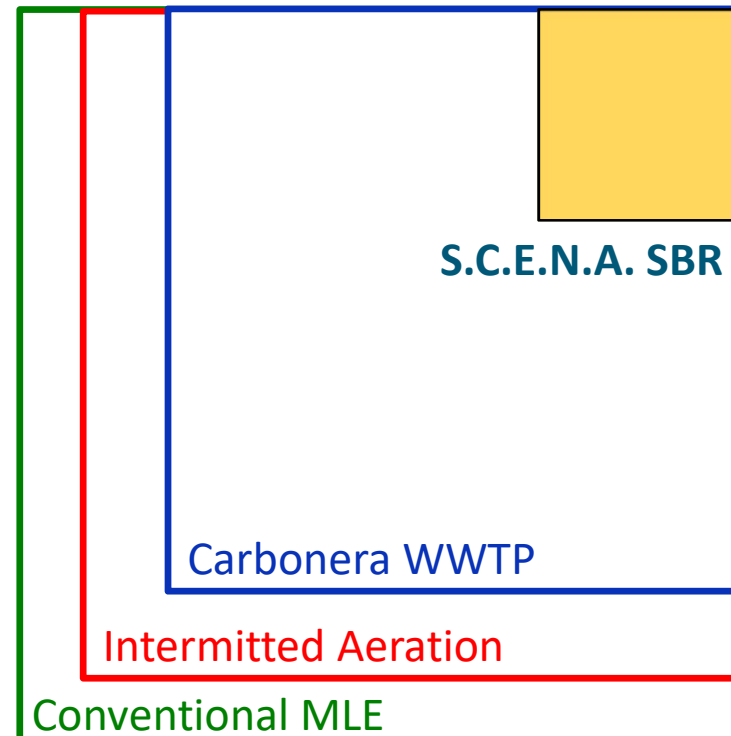
FOOTPRINT : S.C.E.N.A.VS. CONVENTIONAL

SM

How much VOLUME of Biological Reactor to treat the same Load?

	lt Reactor/P.E.	OTHERS/S.C.E.N.A.	VOLUME (mc)
Conventional MLE	180	12	840
Intermittent Aeration	150	10	700
Carbonera WWTP Main line	114	7,6	533
Carbonera S.C.E.N.A. SBR	15	1	70

- ✓ Less impact on the landscape
- ✓ Lower costs of construction



S.C.E.N.A. FULL SCALE I.0 – WATER RESEARCH PAPER (2017)

Water Research 125 (2017) 478–489



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Water Research

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/watres



Is SCENA a good approach for side-stream integrated treatment from an environmental and economic point of view?



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Monte carlo analysis

Sludge phosphorus availability

ABSTRACT

The environmental and economic benefits and burdens of including the first Short Cut Enhanced Nutrient Abatement (SCENA) into a real municipal wastewater treatment plant were evaluated using life cycle assessment (LCA) and life cycle cost (LCC). The implications of accomplishing nitrogen (N) removal and phosphorus (P) recovery via nitrite in the side stream were assessed taking into account the actual effluent quality improvement, the changes in the electricity and chemical consumption, N₂O, CO₂ and CH₄ emissions and the effects of land application of biosolids, among others. In addition, a case-specific estimation of the P availability when sludge is applied to land, therefore replacing conventional fertilizer, was performed. Furthermore, to account for the variability in input parameters, and to address the related uncertainties, Monte Carlo simulation was applied.

The analysis revealed that SCENA in the side stream is an economic and environmentally friendly solution compared to the traditional plant layout with no side-stream treatment, thanks to the reduction of energy and chemical use for the removal of N and P, respectively. The uncertainty analysis proved the validity of the LCA results for global warming potential and impact categories related to the consumption of fossil-based electricity and chemicals, while robust conclusions could not be drawn on freshwater eutrophication and toxicity-related impact categories. Furthermore, three optimization scenarios were also evaluated proving that the performance of the WWTP can be further improved by, for instance, substituting gravitational for mechanical thickening of the sludge or changing the operational strategy to the chemically enhanced primary treatment, although this second alternative will increase the operational cost by 5%. Finally, the outcomes show that shifting P removal from chemical precipitation in the main line to biologically enhanced uptake in the side stream is key to reducing chemicals use, thus the operational cost, and increasing the environmental benefit of synthetic fertilizers replacement.

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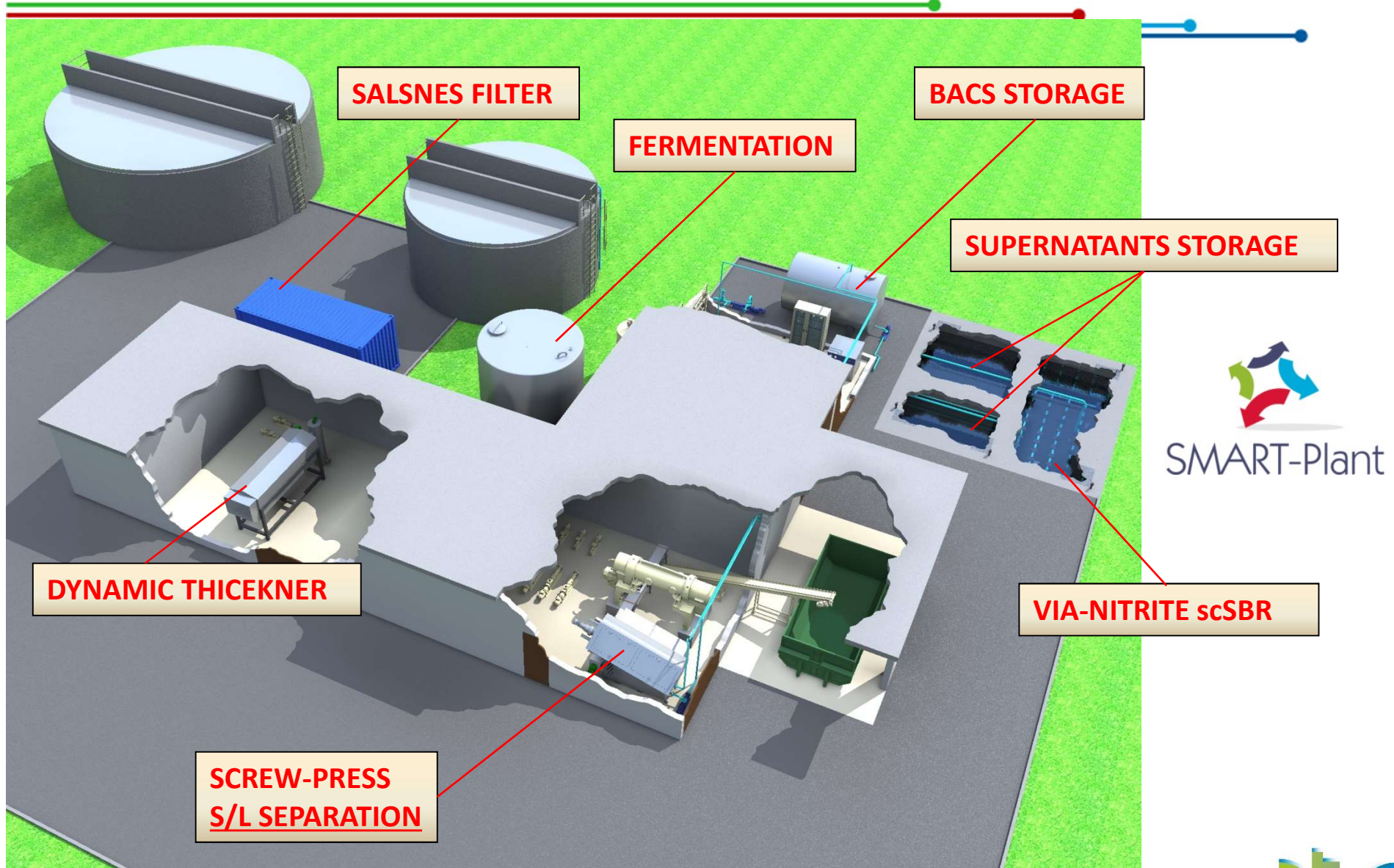


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SCENA 2.0 WITHIN SMART-PLANT

SMART-Plant

SMART-Plant



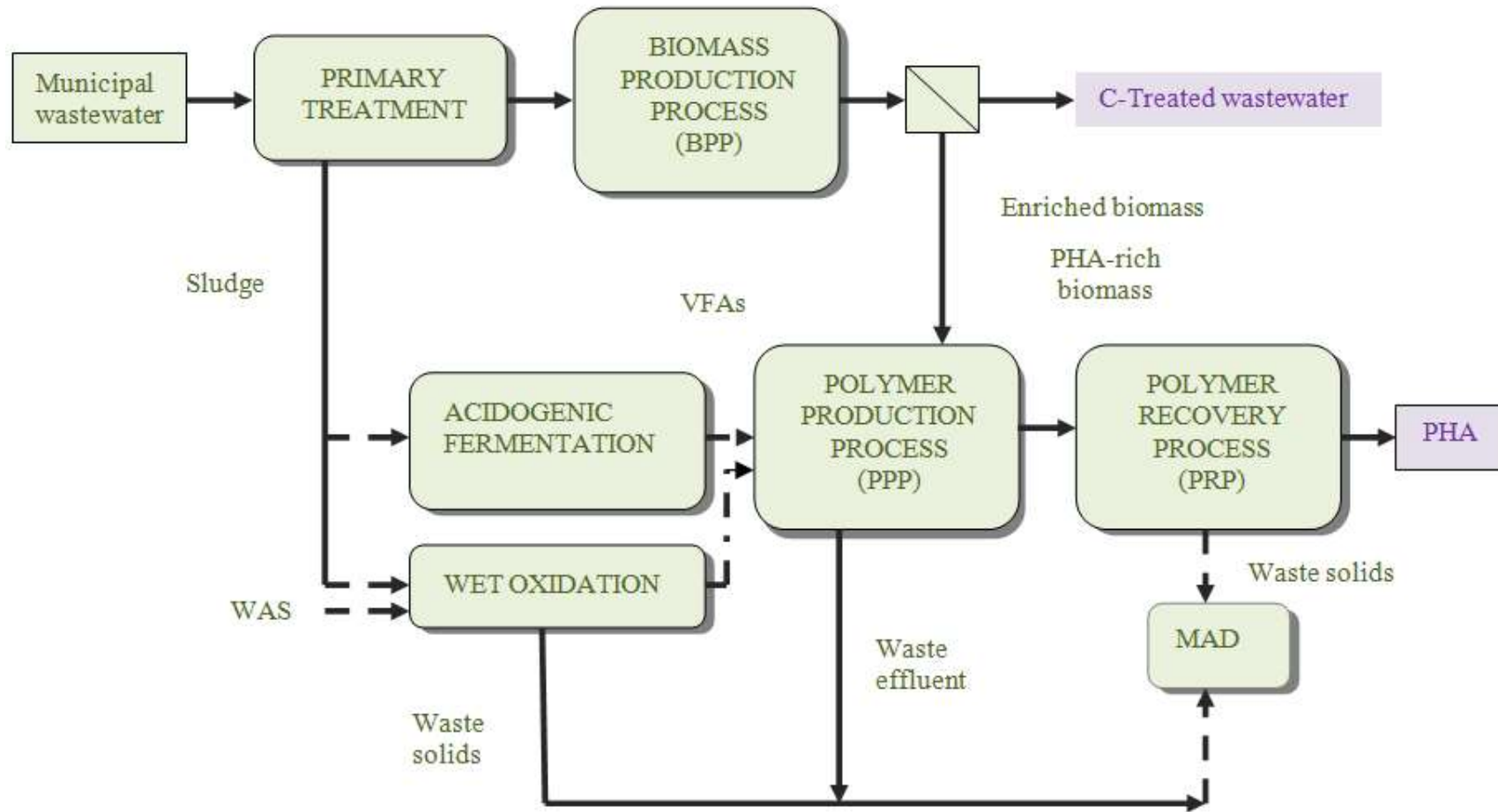
SMART-Plant



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



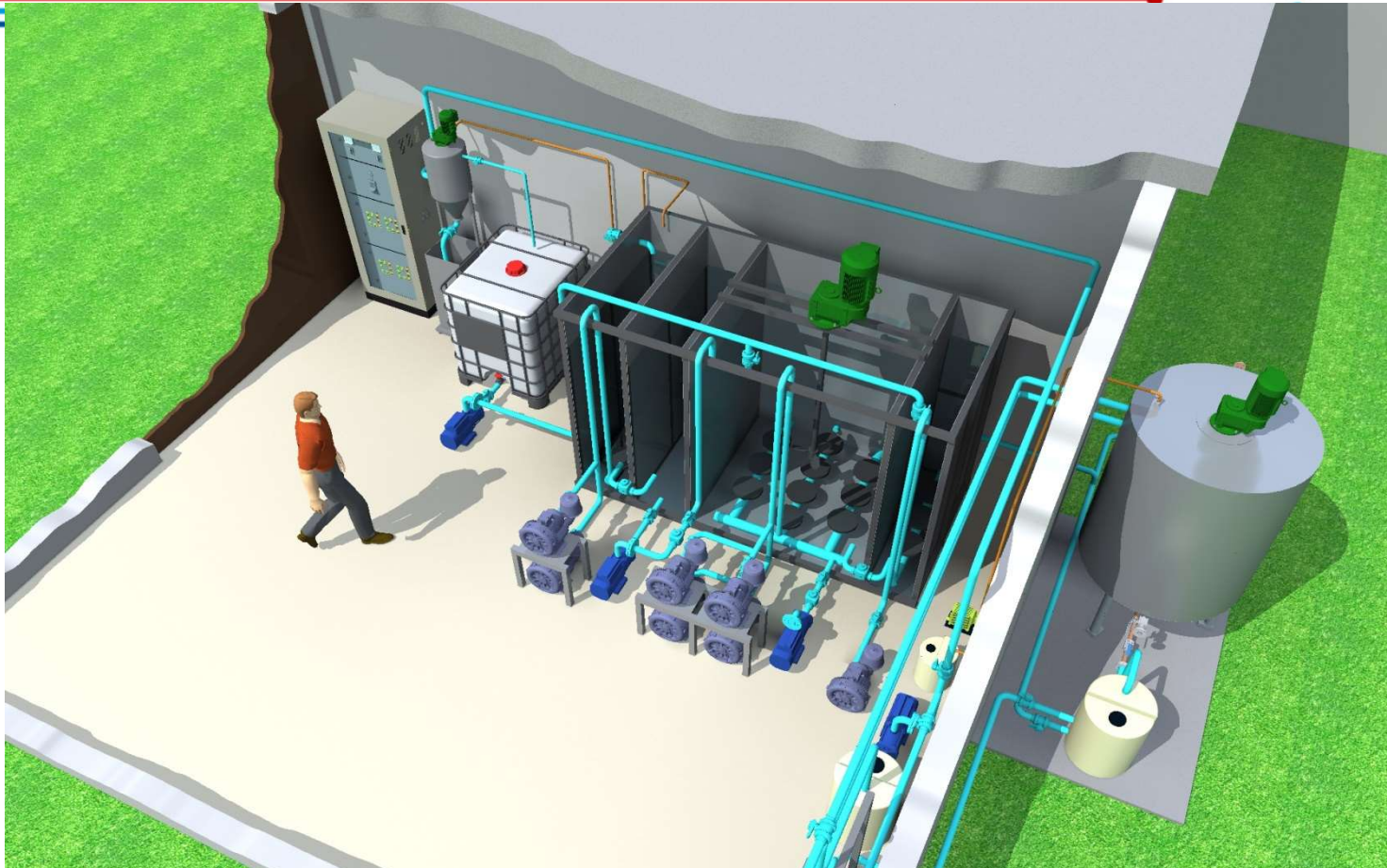
SCEPPHAR: via nitrite nitrogen removal and PHA recovery from cellulosic sludge



Our benchmark:
Anoxkaldnes Cella™

The «short-cut» SMART innovation:

- Integrate the via-nitrite nitrogen removal with the PHA recovery → 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.



Pilot Scale SCEPPHAR

LA STAMPA TUTTOGREEN

SEGUICI SU    ACCEDI 

SMART-Plant, dai rifiuti la fabbrica di nuova materia

Un progetto europeo da 10 milioni di euro che a convertire gli impianti di trattamento delle acque reflue urbane in "fabbriche" di nuova materia prima subito riutilizzabile



ProvaSky
per 6
settimane

Installazione
standard inclusa

Prima vedi
e poi decidi.

0.7-0.8 kgPHA and 0.3 kgStruvite per day

