



LEADING A REVOLUTION IN BIOWASTE RECYCLING

Technologies for urban biowaste and wastewater valorisation

Ledicia Pereira - Aqualia Urban Circular Bioeconomy Webinar Series 26th of May 2021

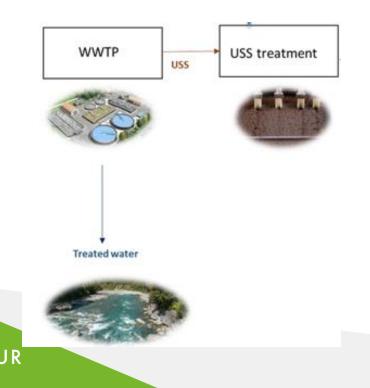


This project received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement Nº 817788

Feedstocks utilised



✓ To work towards circular economy, converting wastewater treatment plants into biofactories. Find optimization solution for sludge line in WWTPs



Main feedstock:

- Urban Sewage Sludge

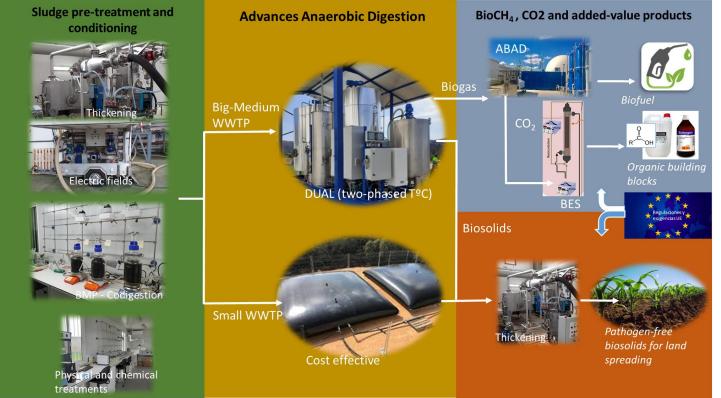
Co - digestion

- Glycerine
- Slaughterhouse residues



> Conversion technologies



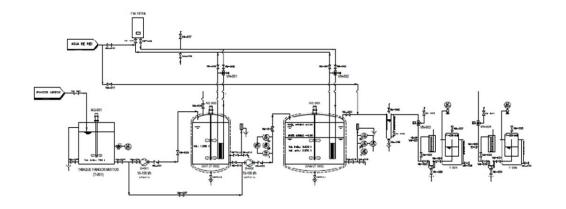


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DUAL ANAEROBIC DIGESTION



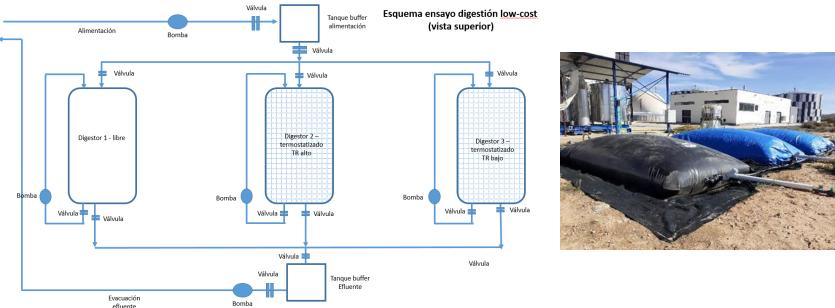


Aims: 1. sludge reduction, 2. sanitation, 3. bioenergy production, 4. Chemical usage reduction



Conversion technologies

DECENTRALISED ANAEROBIC DIGESTION



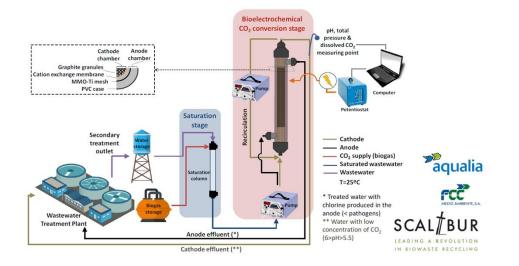
Aims: 1. In Spain, almost 30% of the total sludge is produced in small WWTPs : necessity to give treatment, reduce the amount of sludge produced, chemicals, CO2 emissions (transport) woithout loosing low cost horizon

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CO₂ conversión to added-value products using bio-electrochemical process.





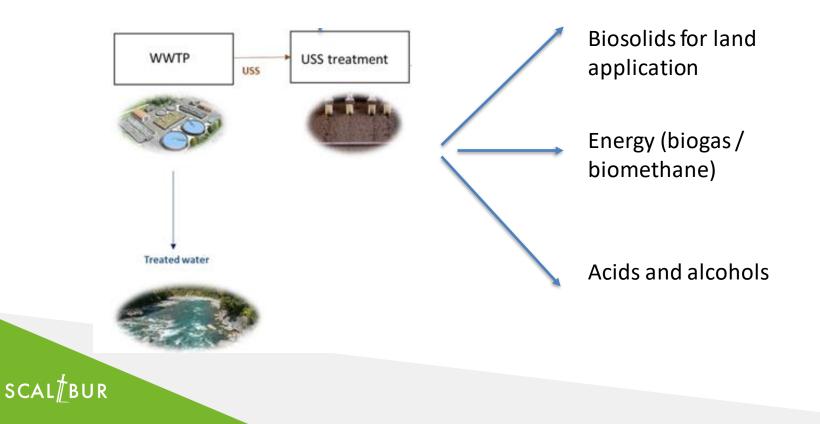
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Aims: CO2 sink, production of added value products



> End products





> Opportunities and barriers



Opportunities

- Maximise methane production. Methane can be use as fuel it self or as a platform for other chemicals (H2, ectonine).
- \checkmark Produce biosolids with direct application in land
- ✓ CO2 sink and production of added value products

Challenges

- ✓ To obtain biosolids with a quality in line with 4th Draft of European Legislation for Sludge Management (2003), especially Clostridium
- ✓ Find right conditions to maximise biogas production and a positive techno-economical analysis. To control methanogenesis in thermophilic reactor.
- ✓ Consider alternative treatments for biosolids (pyrolosis, gasification, hydrogen production)
- \checkmark Obtain a steady-state production of acetate in the BES reactor
- Commission biogas pre-treatment plant in Czech Republic to test BES. Technology transfer

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Current stage of development and next steps aqualia

- Working towards fulfilment of 4th Draft of European Legislation for Sludge Management (2003). Dual Stage achieves betters performance than single stage.
- Acetate production achieved in BES reactor: Semicontinuous operation: 1,02 g/day, continuous operation 0,5 g /day
- SmVak is working towards the preparation of gas pre-treatment plant in Czech Republic for the BES using biogas from a WWTP



Current stage of development and next steps NEXT STEPS



Dual AD and decentralised AD

- During following stages (different HRT and temperatures) parameters to monitor include biogas production and quality (H2 and CH4 in particular), pathogen removal, dewatering capability, VFAs profile among others. Most interesting stage at 65°C.
- Define techno-economic analysis and best performing stage. -
- Decentralised: techno-economic analysis to assess the scenario in Population Equivalent until which this solution fits

BES

- Continuing Monitoring and Optimisation.
- Increase temperature of the system. -
- Correct assessment of the energy balance -
- SmVak is working towards the preparation of gas pre-treatment plant in Czech Republic for the BES using biogas from a WWTP.



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