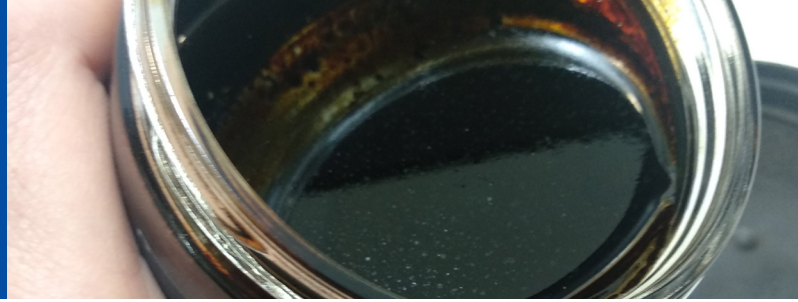


SEWAGE CELLULOSE TO BIO-OIL

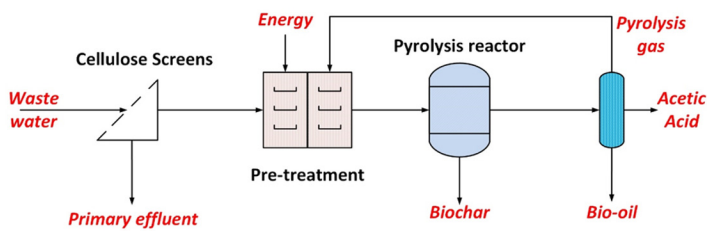
WHAT IS A TEA?

Techno-economic assessment (TEA) is an integrated evaluation of the technological performance and economic feasibility of a (new) process or value chain with the aim to identify the most important underlying parameters for its economic feasibility. As such a TEA helps decision makers in steering research and developments or investments. For the WOW! project we performed a TEA for cellulose, PHA and lipids from sewage.



PYROLYSIS PLANT

Cellulose fibers are recovered by using special screens, dewatered, dried, and formed into pellets. A fast pyrolysis process transforms the pellets into biochar and volatiles that are separated into bio-oil, acetic acid, and pyrolysis gas. The pyrolysis gas is internally used to provide the heat required for drying the cellulose fibers.

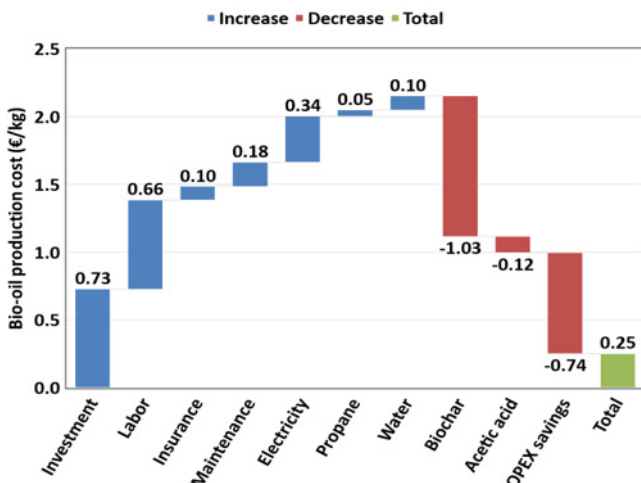


PRODUCTS

Biochar and acetic acid are considered as by-products and no char activation is assumed

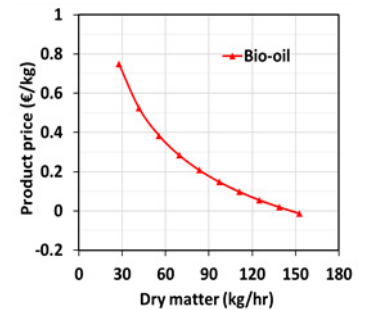
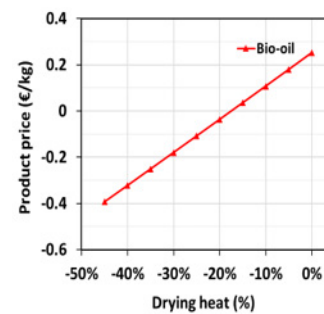
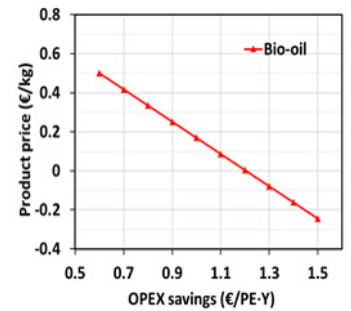
PRODUCTION COST

WWTP capacity = 150,000 Population Equivalent
Bio-oil capacity = 121 t/y



KEY PARAMETERS

- OPEX savings
- Drying heat
- Plant scale
- Cellulose concentration



CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

- Production cost of chemically activated char was €252/ton, which is 50% less than the assumed market price.
- Alternative drying technology such as vacuum evaporator would result in fuel cost savings.
- Bio-oil may require further treatment to attain standard quality.
- TEA shows a positive business case under the assumptions made. Optimizing actual operations will make further improvements.

MORE INFORMATION:

Mohammed Nazeer Khan (VITO) mohammednazeer.khan@vito.be