

Cost assessment of different routes for phosphorus recovery from wastewater

Using data from pilot and production plants

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A. Nättorp^a, A. Léonard^b, L. Fraikin^b, K. Remmen^a, C. Remy^c

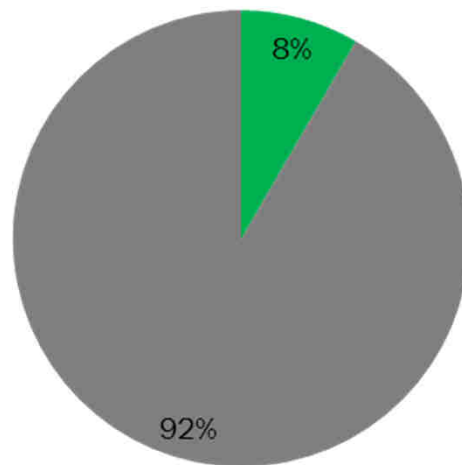
^aSchool of Life Sciences, FHNW, ^bULiège, ^cKompetenzzentrum Wasser Berlin

Outline

1. Our motivation and objectives
2. Cost assessment in P-REX
3. Methodology in Phos4You
4. Expected impacts for a sustainable future

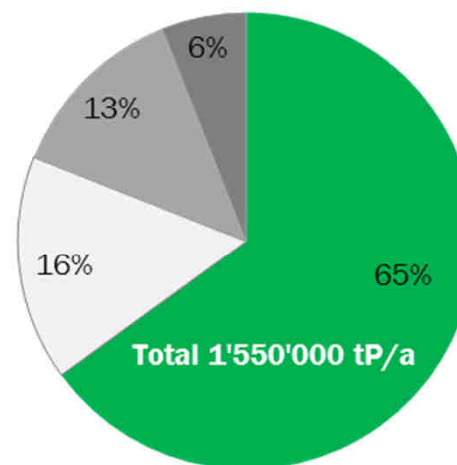
EU could improve mineral P supply security through technical recycling

Supply



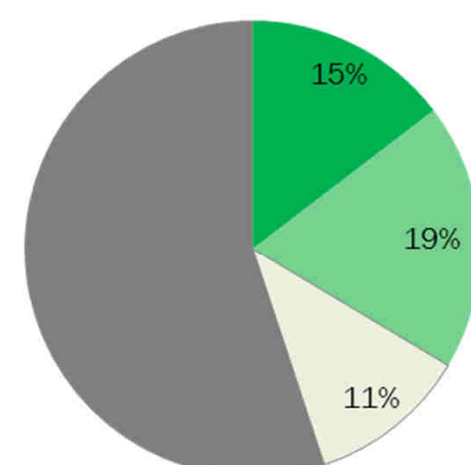
■ European fossil P production
■ Import

Demand



■ Fertiliser
□ Feed additives
■ Detergents and soaps
■ Other

Recovery potential



■ Municipal sewage sludge
■ Slaughterhouse waste
■ Food-waste (household and retail)
■ Demand uncovered

Conventional (organic) recycling today

- 1800 kt in sewage sludge and manure

Sources: P-REX policy brief <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.242550>

Van Dijk et al <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969715305519>

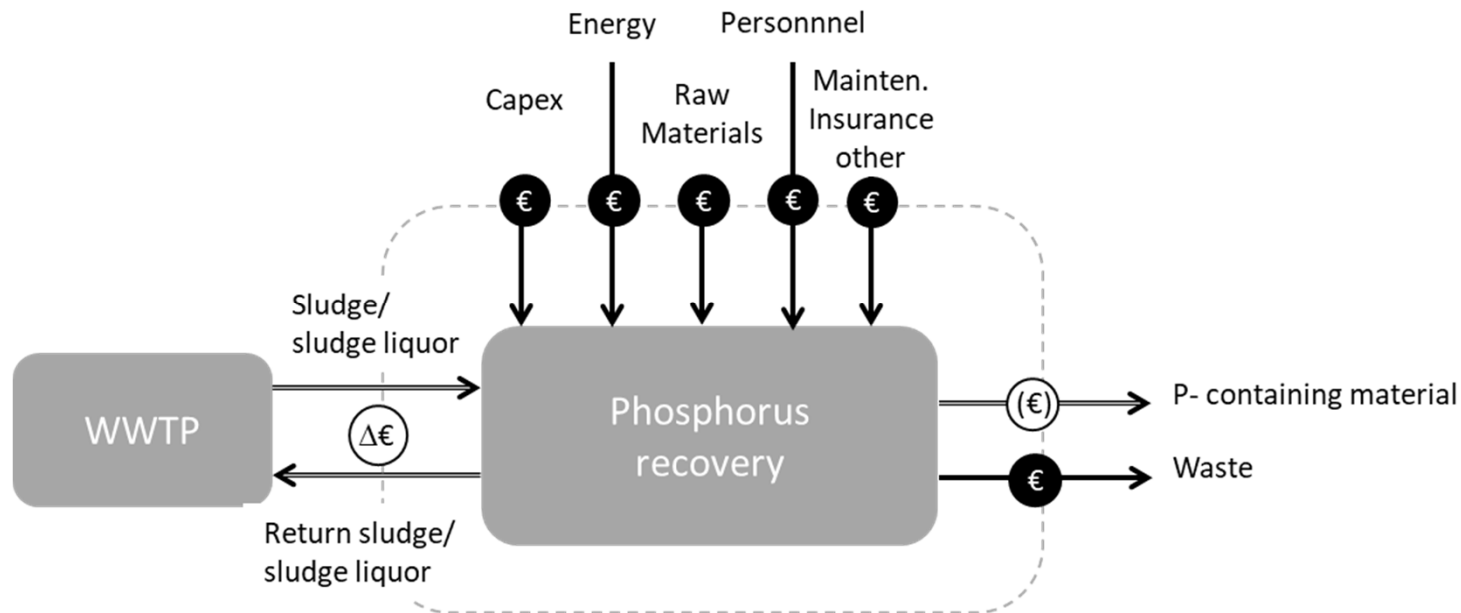
Projects and objectives



- FP7 European Research and demonstration project
 - Period: 2012-2015
 - 15 partners from 8 countries
 - Objective: EU-wide implementation of phosphorus recovery and recycling from wastewater considering regional conditions
- Period: 2016-2020
 - 12 partners from 7 countries
 - Objective: Prepare the deployment of P-Recycling to enhance EU-sovereignty on P

P-REX Methodology

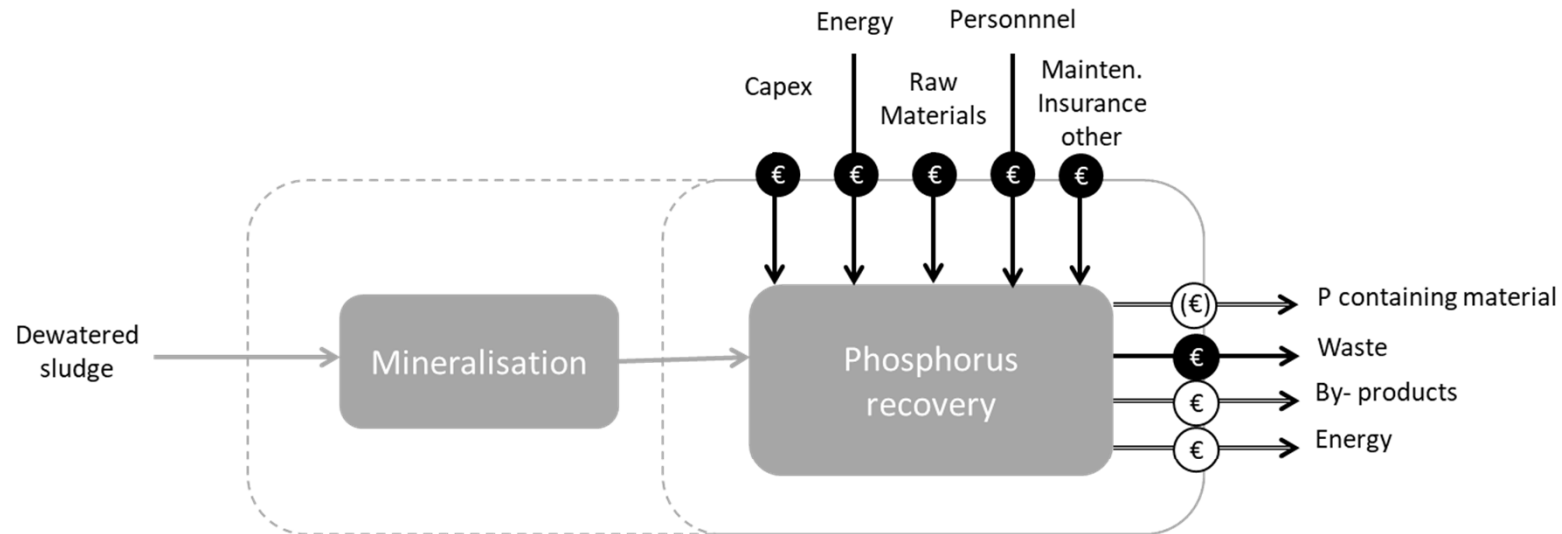
LCC (LCA) system for sludge/-water processes



Source: Nättorp et al (2017) <https://doi.org/10.2166/wst.2017.212>

P-REX Methodology

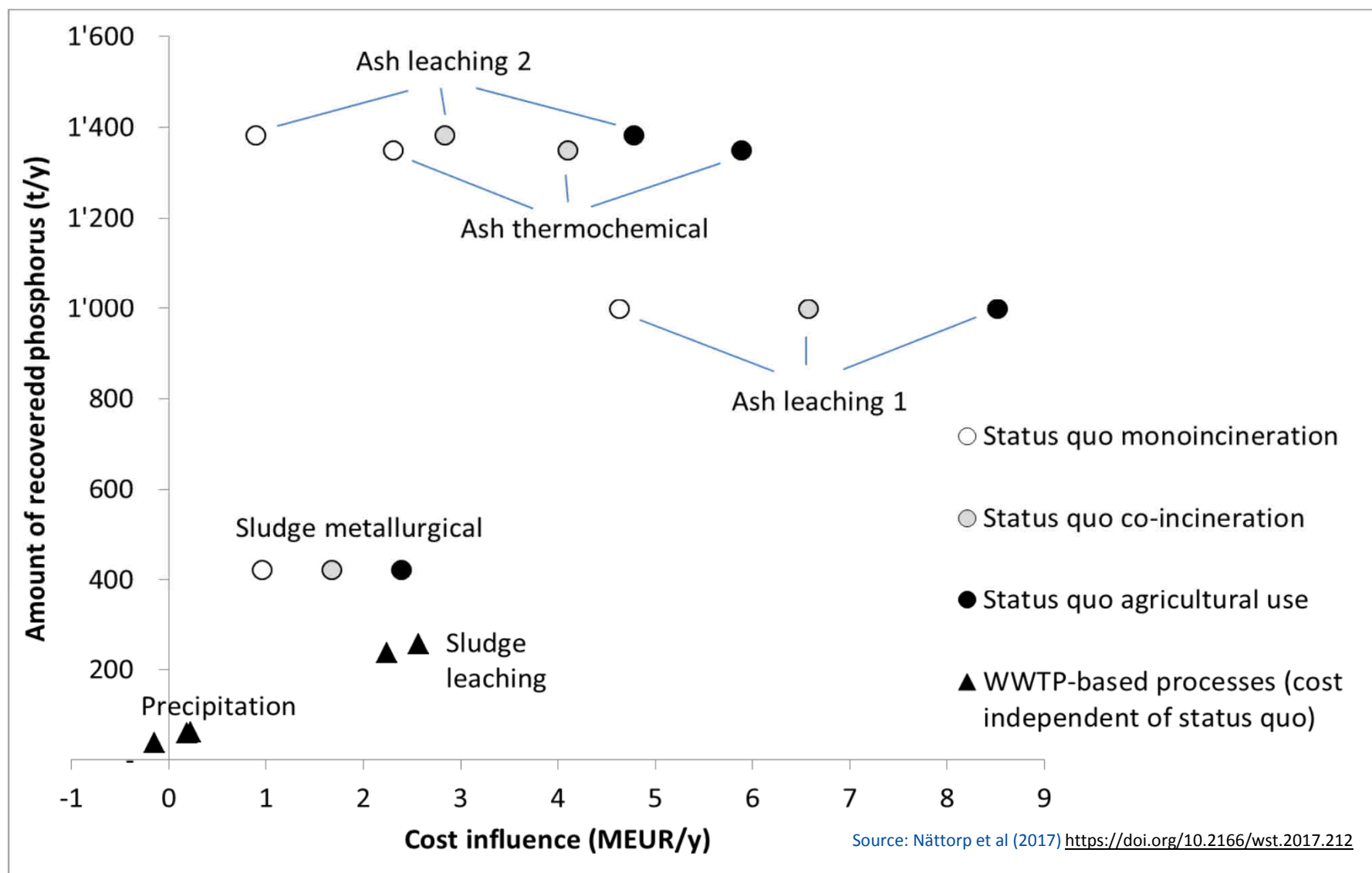
LCC (LCA) system for thermal/ash process



Source: Nättorp et al (2017) <https://doi.org/10.2166/wst.2017.212>

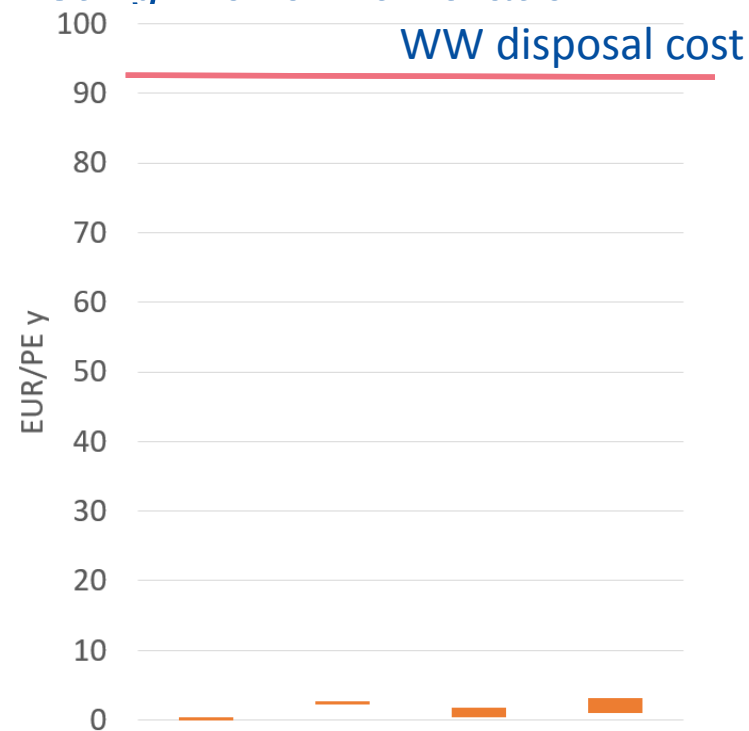
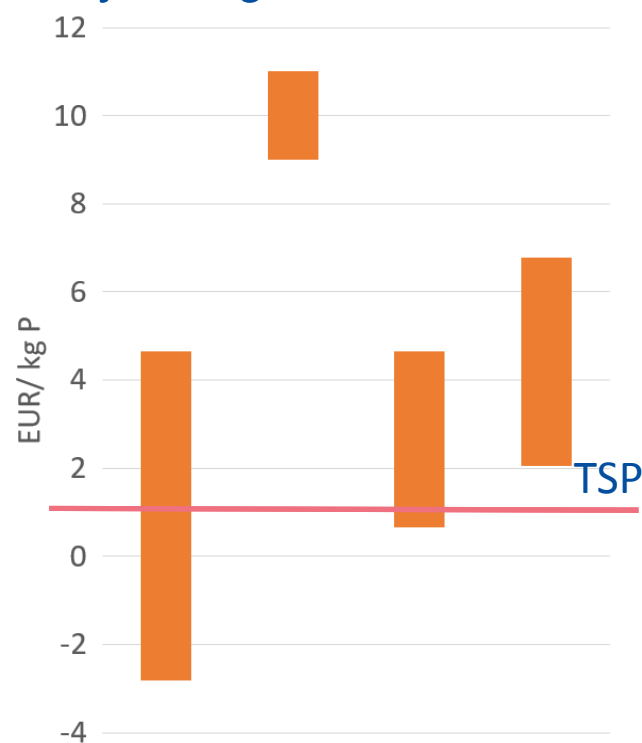
Cost influence vs recovered P

Different Reference scenarios



Cost ranges for process groups

- Precipitation processes
- Sludge leaching
- Dry sludge, ash treatment, mono-incineration existing
- Dry sludge, ash treatment, no existing mono-incineration



Source: Nättorp et al
(2017)
<https://doi.org/10.2166/wst.2017.212>

Methodology

Phos4You vs P-REX

- Same
 - System including interactions with up- / downstream- processes
 - Reference scenario (Status Quo)
 - Collect solid data from pilot/demo plants
 - Crosscheck and validate along the process
- New/different in Phos4You
 - Different settings (urban to household)
 - ➔ One reference scenario per setting
 - ➔ Comparison of limited set of suitable technologies for each setting

Conclusions for a sustainable future

- Background
 - Phosphorus EU critical raw material, necessary for food security
 - P-REX provides uniform LCC (and LCA) for 9 recovery processes based on pilot and full scale data
 - Cost of technical recycling is affordable 3 % of WW disposal cost
- Target
 - Phos4You will update and extend LCC/LCA considering very variable settings in Northwestern Europe
 - ➔ Support Water utilities technology and investment decisions
 - ➔ Support policymaking for phosphorus recycling

Thank you for your attention!



Main P-REX deliverables @ Zenodo:
<http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.242550>

→ Contact:
Anders Nättorp
School of Life Sciences, FHNW
anders.naettorp@fhnw.ch
+41 61 228 5521



Swiss Phosphorus Network:
<http://www.pxch.ch/>



University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland
School of Life Sciences



We cooperate to close the P-cycle



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