



Results of Pilot Scale Tests for P-Recovery from Emschergenossenschaft-Lippeverband Sewage Sludge Ashes with REMONDIS TetraPhos® Process

ECSM 2019 – 5th European Conference on Sludge Management, Liège, Belgium, 6 to 8 October 2019

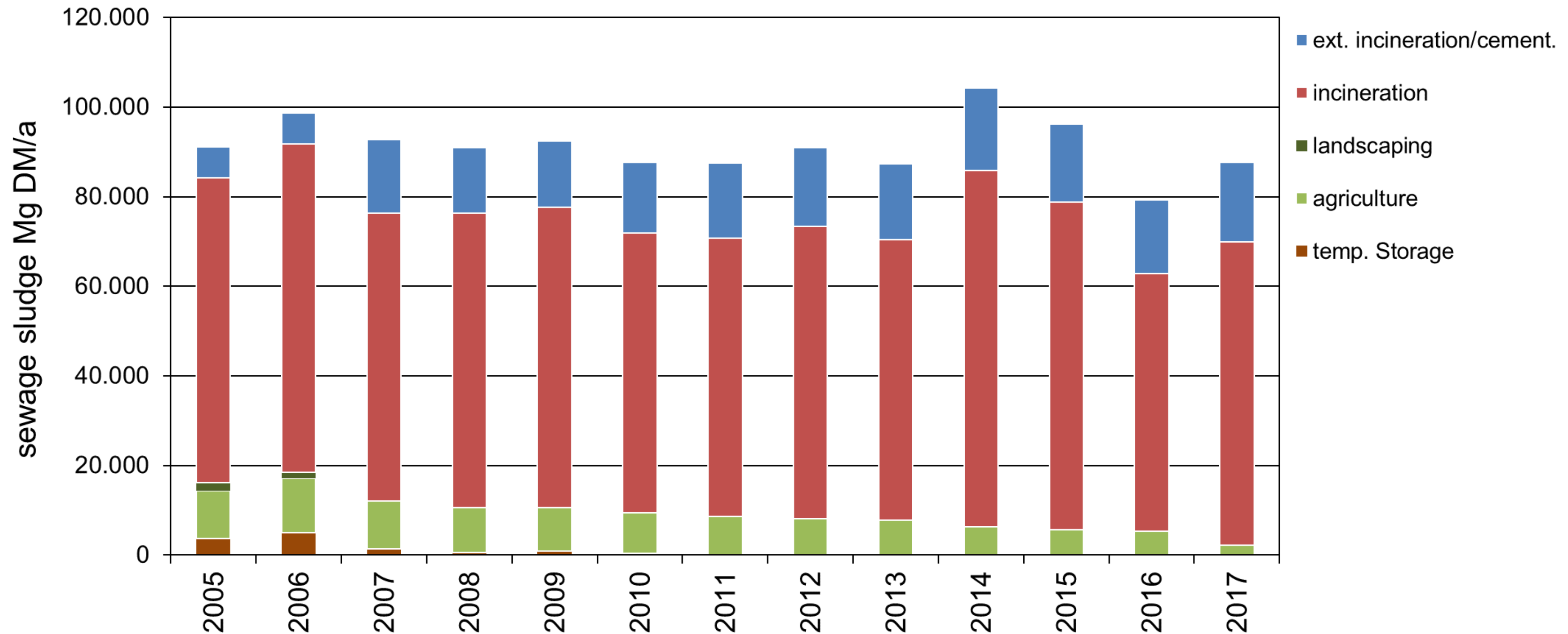
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Patrick Herr

Emschergenossenschaft und Lippeverband
REMONDIS Aqua Industrie GmbH & Co. KG

Agenda

- Background
- First Results
- Further Action
- Outlook

Sludge disposal routes of EGLV



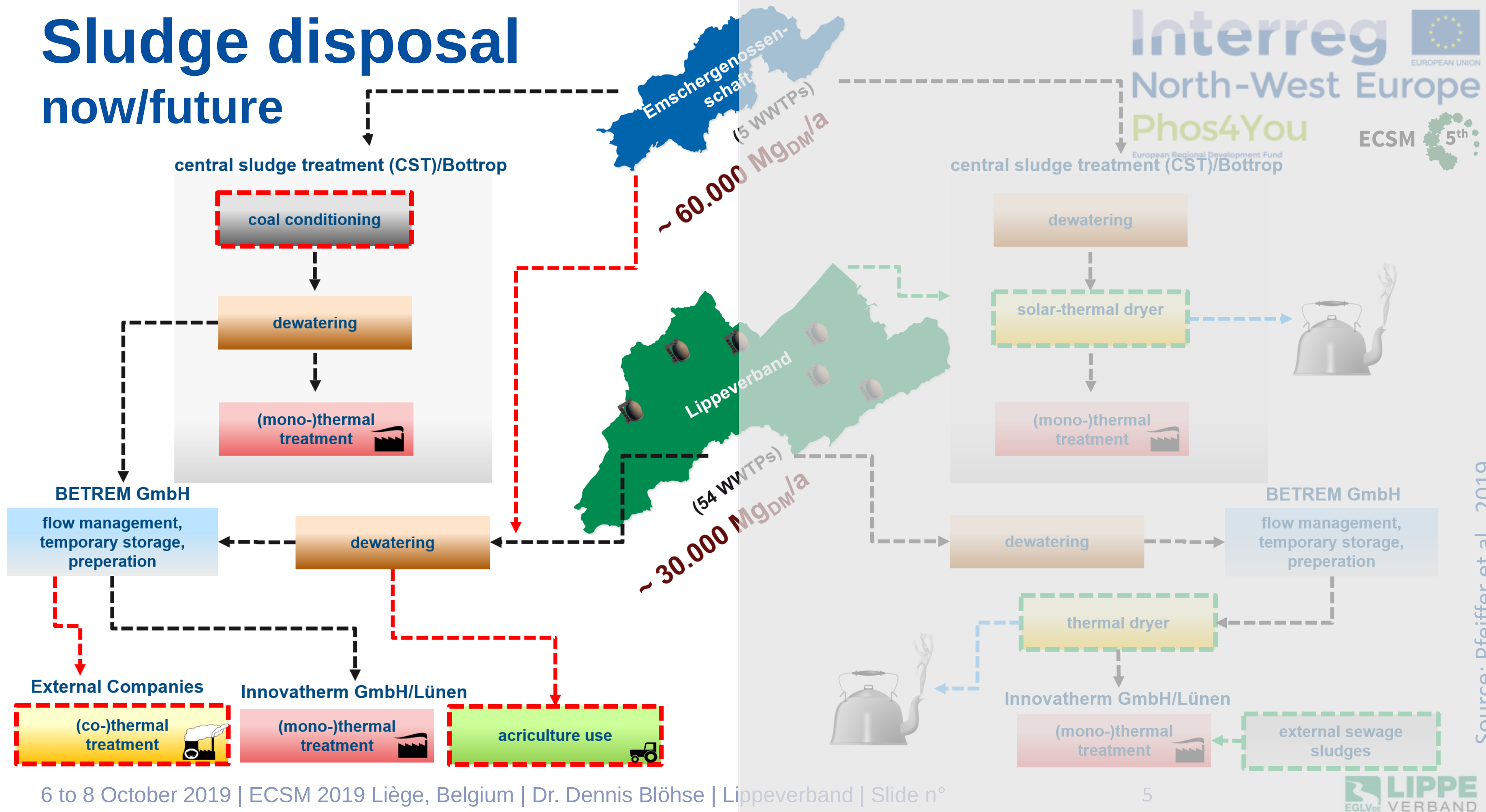
Our facilities for thermal treatment



EMSCHERGENOSSENSCHAFT – Bottrop	INNOVATHERM GmbH – Lünen
Sewage sludge from municipal waste water with influences of industrial sewage	Sewage sludge from several municipal and industrial sources
Capacity: 44.000 Mg DM/a	Capacity: 95.000 Mg DM/a
Ashes*: 15.000 Mg/a	Ashes*: 45.000 Mg/a
P-Content*: 5 %	P-Content*: 3 %

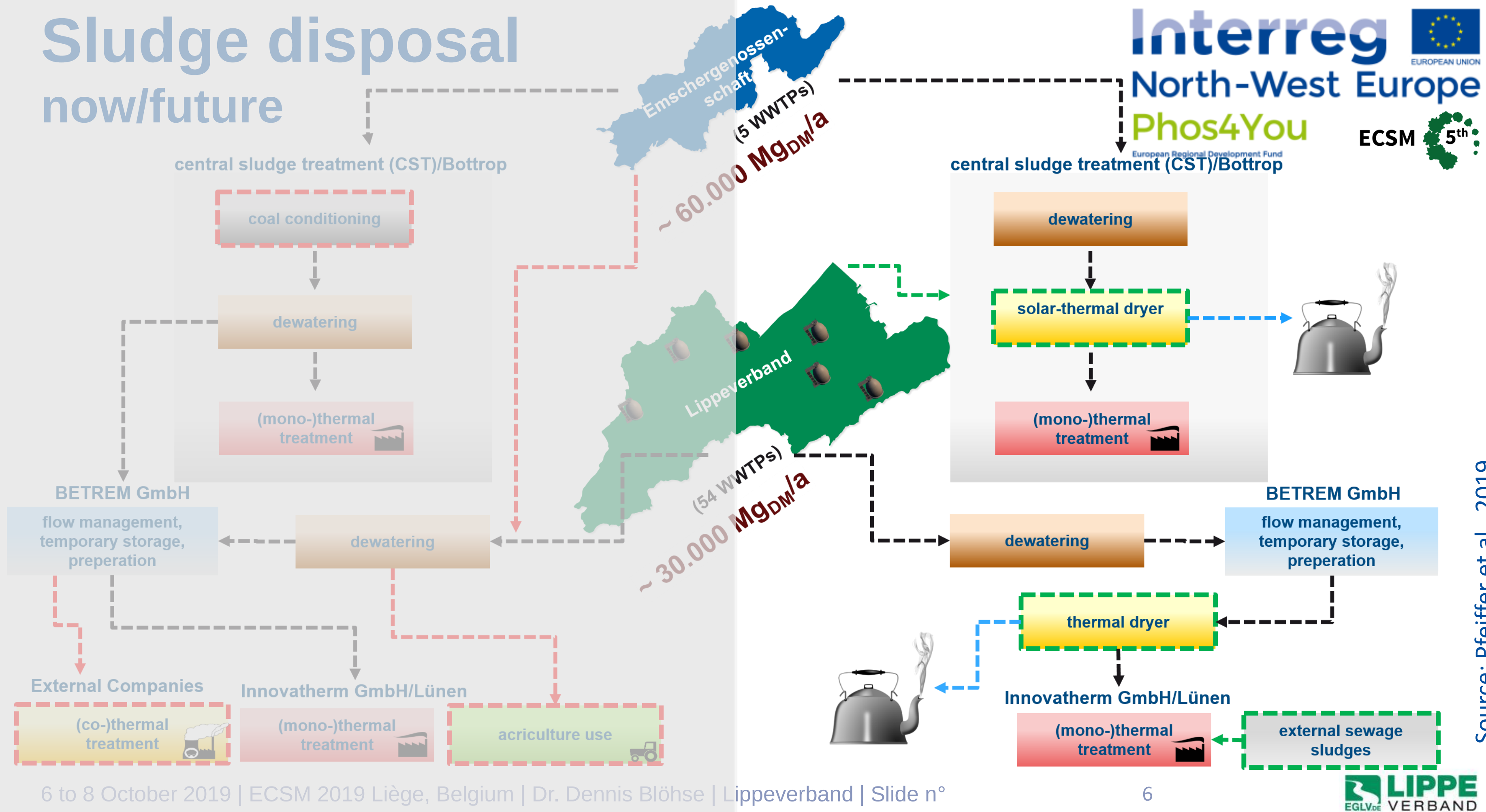
*average of Data from 2015 to 2017

Sludge disposal now/future



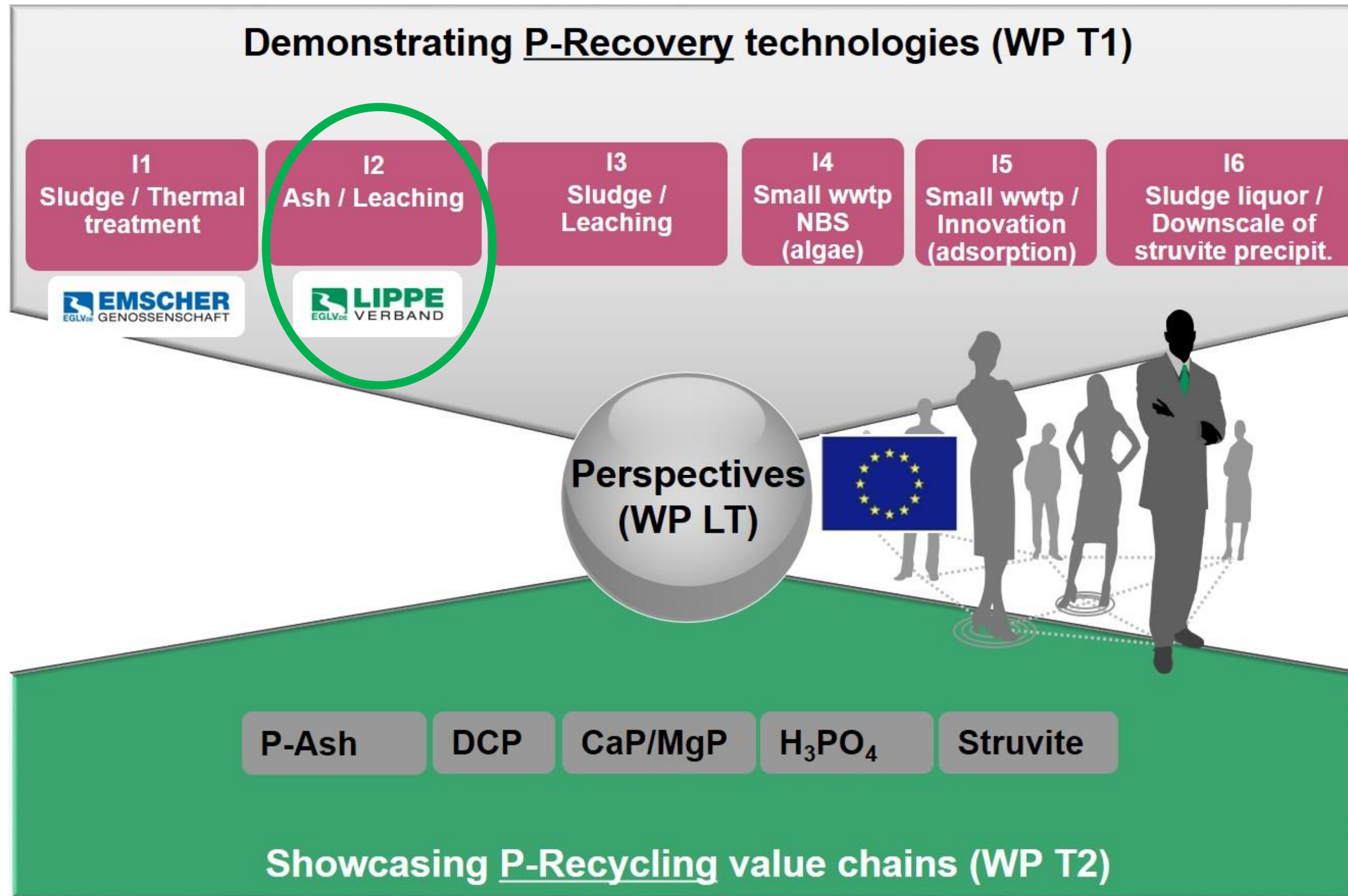
Source: Pfeiffer et al., 2019

Sludge disposal now/future



Source: Pfeiffer et al., 2019

Scope of „Phos4You“

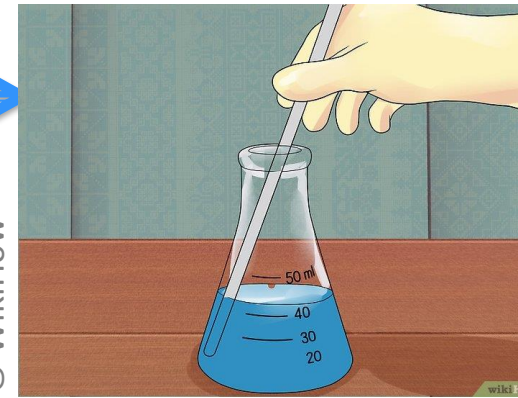


Possible routes at EGLV



Sewage Sludge Ashes

Mono-Incineration



© WikiHow

Phosphoric Acid

Industrial
Application



Sewage Sludge

Co-Incineration

(Cement Plant, Coal-Fired Power Plant)

Integration of
additional processes



© EuPhoRe

Phosphate Rich Ashes



Phosphate Salt (DCP/Struvit)



Fertilizer
Industry

Pre-industrial Demonstration

REMONDIS TetraPhos®



Location:

Elverlingsen/Werdohl

Operation:

completed

Input:

Sewage sludge ashes (SSA) from the incineration plants in Bottrop and Lünen

Capacity:

50 kg/h

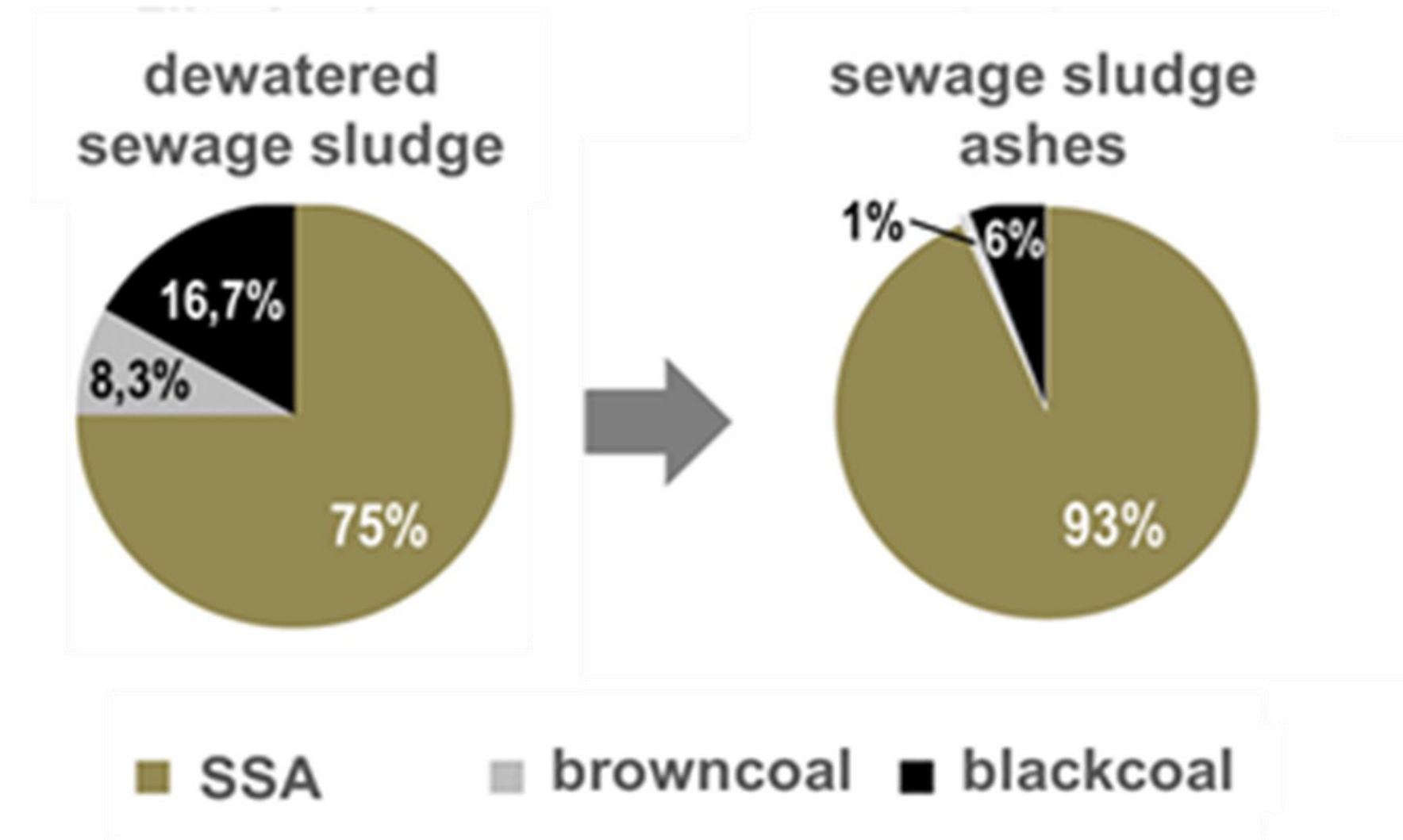
Product:

H_3PO_4

Results REMONDIS TetraPhos®

Influence of coal-conditioning in sludge treatment

- Coal-conditioning approx. 25% (regarding dewatered sewage sludge)
 - 7% of the SSA are ashes from coal
 - Effect of dilution
→ decrease of P (absolut 0,6%, relative 11%)
 - But also increase of S and Al
→ coal ash composition
- ✓ Coal-conditioning has no effect on P-recovery via REMONDIS TetraPhos®



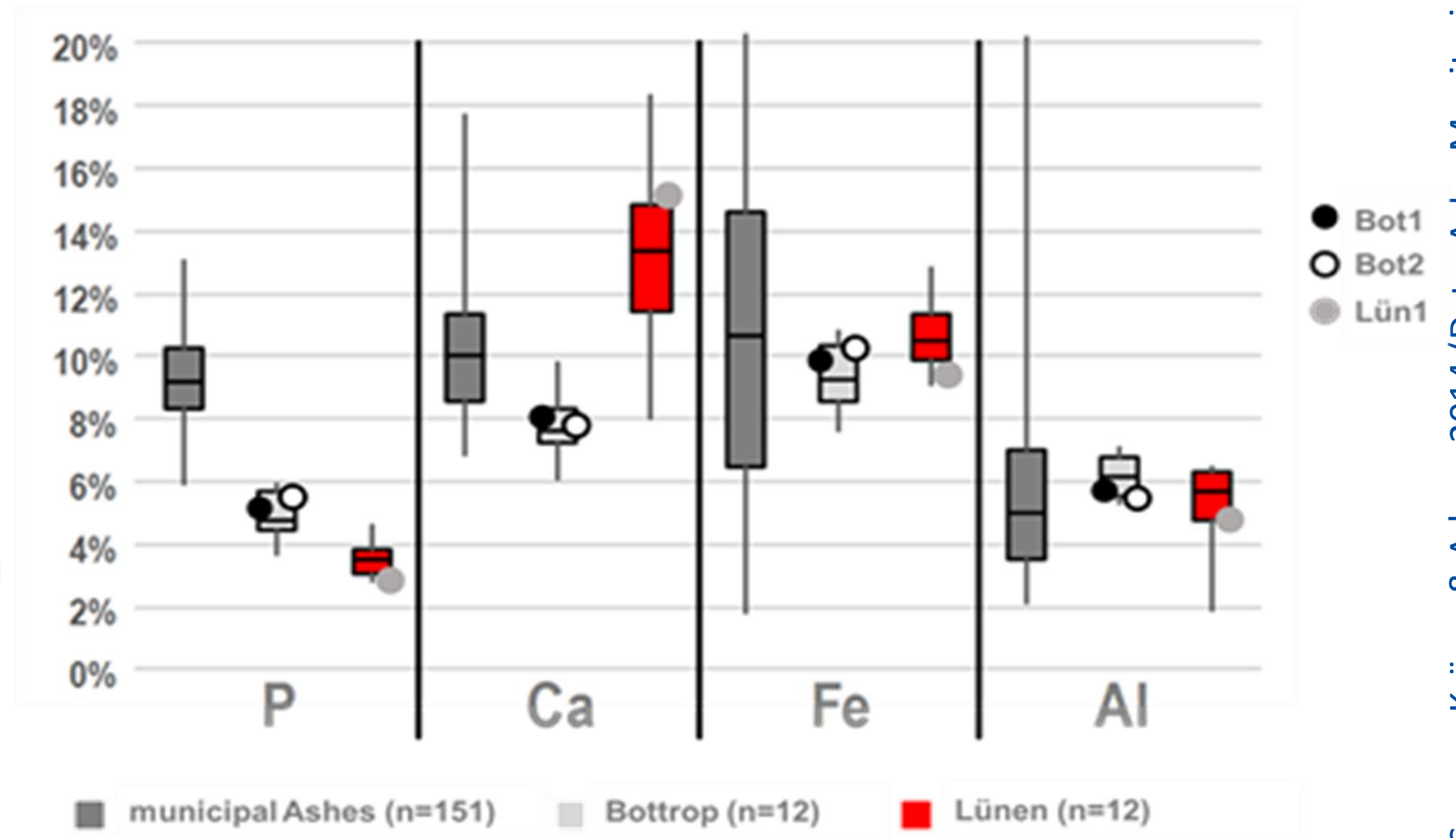
Results REMONDIS TetraPhos®

Compositions of the used ashes

Used ash samples:

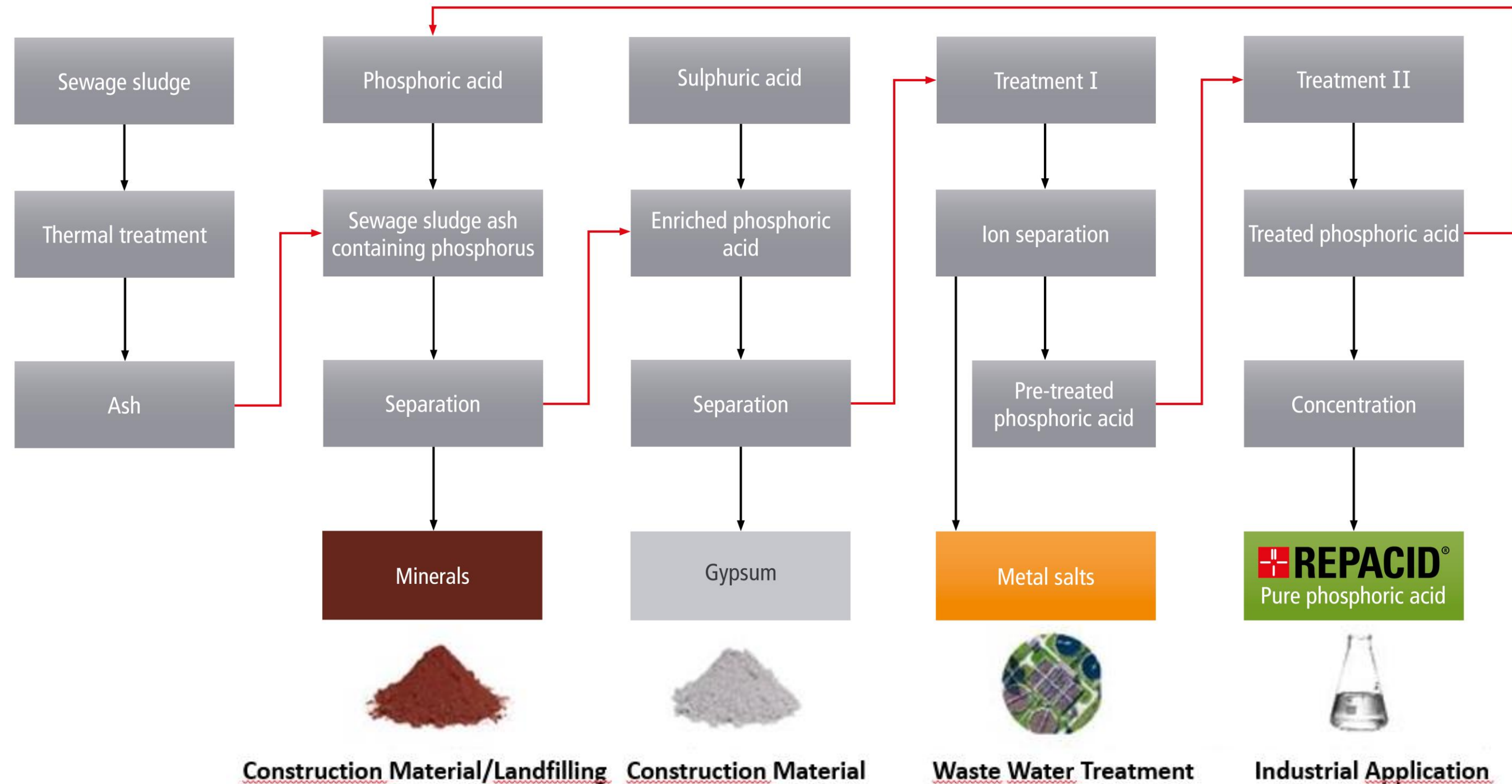
- Bot 1 – Bottrop with coal
- Bot 2 – Bottrop without coal
- Lün 1 – Lünen

✓ Samples are representative for the respective incineration plant



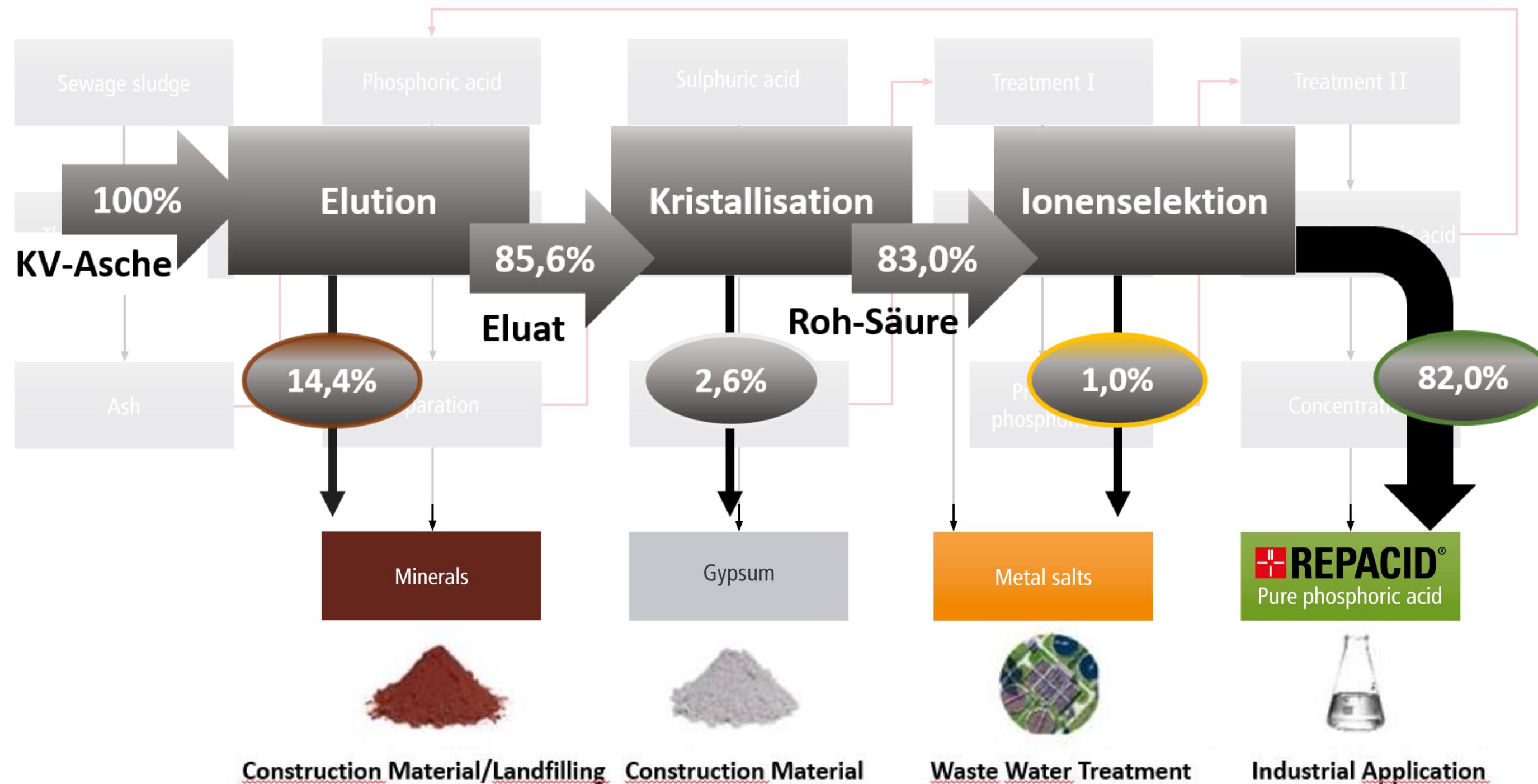
Results REMONDIS TetraPhos®

Process steps



Results REMONDIS TetraPhos®

Phosphorus balance



Results REMONDIS TetraPhos®

Summary (1)

two key aspects were demonstrated:

- An effective phosphorus recovery process with a P-recovery rate of >80%, in accordance with future legal requirements.
- A stable operational cycle that produces recycled phosphoric acid (REPACID®) that complies with all product specifications.

...furthermore:

- The produced by-products – gypsum and metal salts – are of high quality with very low levels of contaminants, which makes recycling possible.
- The ash residue from Bottrop shows a better landfill class than the raw ash, which could reduce disposal costs.

Results REMONDIS TetraPhos®

Summary (2)

- A concept for industrial implementation of the REMONDIS TetraPhos® process on the central sludge treatment (CST) Bottrop was established.
- The economic efficiency - amongs others - dependent on...
 - P-content of the ashes
 - As well as from the global marked prices for P-acid.
- EGLV ashes are currently low in phosphorus (<6%) and does not yet reach the (threshold of economic viability) break even.
- In the long term, EGLV is expected to increase the phosphorus content in the sewage sludge of its WWTP and thus in the SSA.
- Phos4You will develop options to increase P levels in SSA to improve the economics of the operation.

Further Action

consolidation– analyze - evaluate

- Update/consolidation the current inventory
 - Discuss future operational changes
 - Recording fluctuations in seizure/ quality
 - Detect possible operational influence/“margins”
- Evaluate optimisation approaches
 - Goal: Increase of P-content in sludges and ashes
- Ecological and economic evaluation
 - variant analysis
 - sensitivity analysis
 - scenarios process

Further Action possible scenarios

Key question „Location“

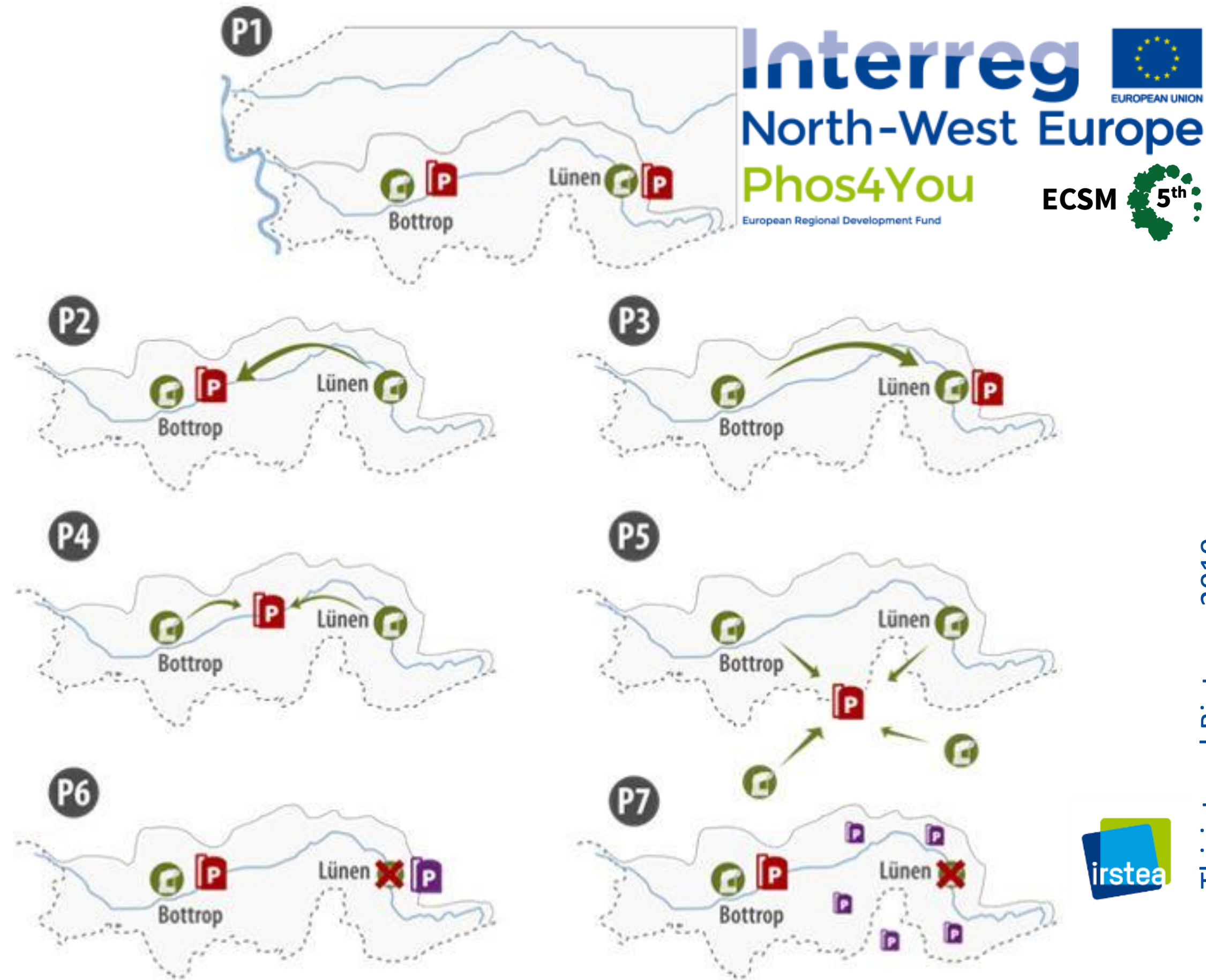
- One or two locations
- External Location

Hybrid solution

- Involvement of processes to recover P from sewage sludge directly on the WWTP (e.g. rural area)

Extension

- Consider regional cooperation



Follow-up (1)

Regional sludge-ash-management and P-recycling in urban area (AMPHORE)

Funding programm of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research
„Regional Phosphor-Recycling“ (RePhoR)



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

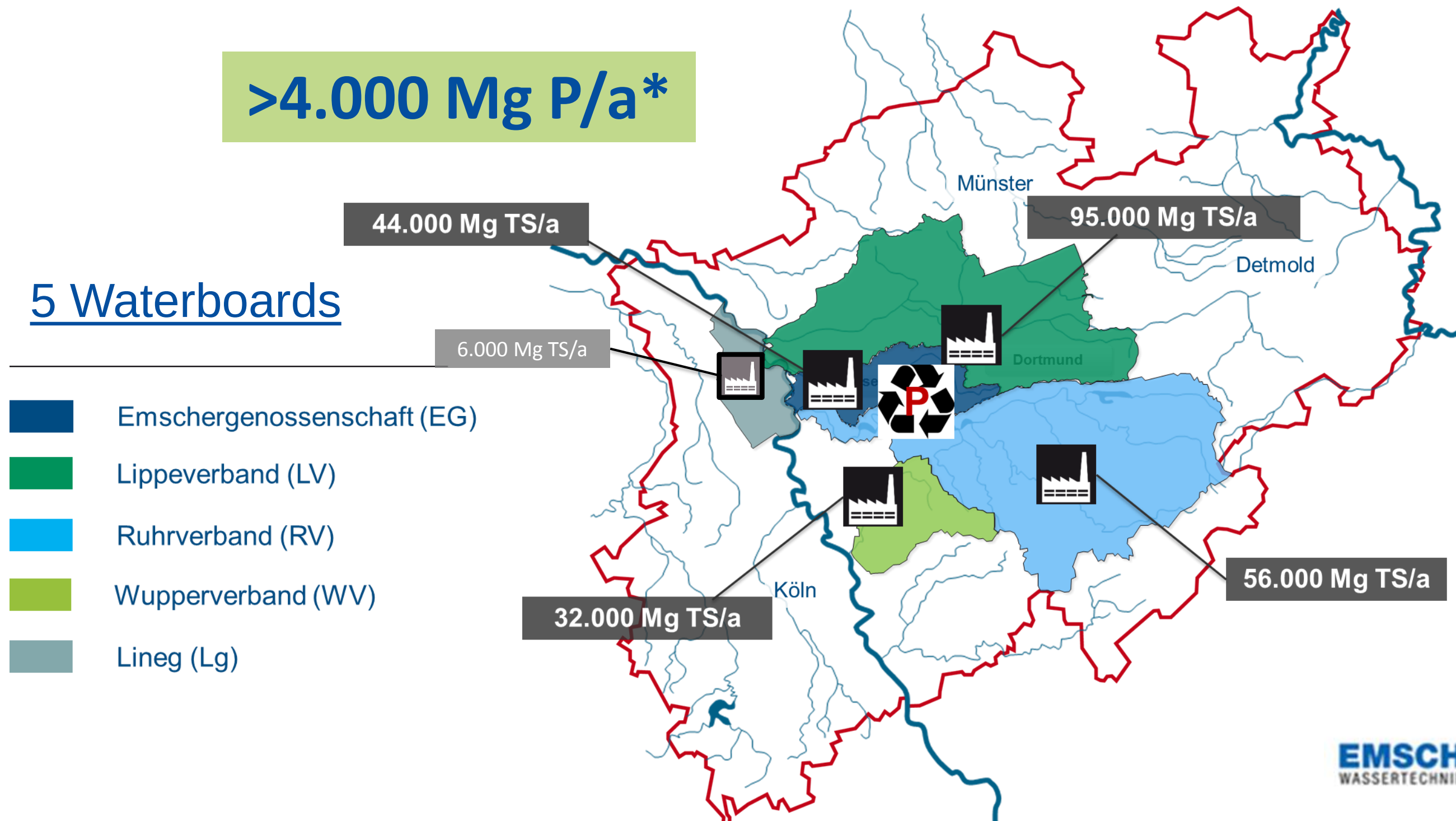
- ✓ Location and organisational form is defined
- ✓ Process containment is set
- ✓ Concept is compiled and submitted



Projektinitiierung und -leitung: Ruhrverband

Follow-up (2)

5 Waterboards



& Partner



*Potential after recovery of 80% (recovery rate)

www.nweurope.eu/phos4you



Source references

- E. Pfeiffer, D. Bogaczyk, M. Kuhmann, D. Dörtelmann and F. Lehrmann. Strategische Aufstellung eines großen Wasserwirtschaftsverbandes zur Erfüllung der Klärschlammverordnung. 52. Essener Tagung für Wasserwirtschaft. Aachen 2019
- M.-E. Ploteau, I. Nafo, K.-G. Schmelz. Waterboards on the way to recycle phosphorus. Environ2018. Cork, Ireland 2018
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