

INTERNAL NEWSLETTER, December 2020

Dear members of the WIDER UPTAKE project,

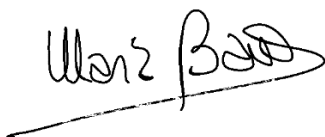
The intention of this newsletter is to provide an update about the ongoing activities in our project. I hope this will result in additional motivation to perform the work that we have ahead of us. I personally find a lot of inspiration in seeing how similar challenges we are looking at in WIDER UPTAKE despite the geographical, cultural, sociological, and economic differences. I also hope that, by sharing information, we will learn from each other's background and experiences.

In June 2020, the project officer of the project reminded us of the importance of external communication and dissemination. WIDER UPTAKE has prepared a [dissemination plan](#) and a [communication plan](#) for the project. I would like to ask for your help to do the best possible work to this respect. What information would you like to see on the website? What achievements, events, news would you like to share?

We have also established a Microsoft Teams to share the files and to be able to easily contact each other. I hope you all have managed to access the WIDER UPTAKE Team. If not, please take contact with me. I believe having in place good mechanisms for internal information sharing is crucial for the success of our project.

I would like to thank you all for your efforts to achieve the objectives of our project during this challenging year of 2020. We are looking forward to meeting you all in person shortly!

I wish you all a peaceful holiday period with your families and a good start of 2021,



Maria Barrio,
Leader of WP7: Collaboration, communication and management

1 Events

The project started with the digital kick-off in June 2020. I think we all made the best out of the situation, managed to be a bit better known with each other and got an overall picture of the project's content. If you missed the digital kick-off, you could still see many of the presentations that were held if you go to the website of the project: www.wider-uptake.eu (to find the videos, look for the WP descriptions and the case studies).

WIDER UPTAKE participated on November 18 at the joint kick-off meeting for the 5 projects funded in the same H2020 call as WIDER UPTAKE (Figure 1).

At the kick-off, IPR in H2020 projects was presented by the EC-agency, followed by a presentation and discussions on potential synergies between the projects and possibilities for collaboration. Slides from the events and information related to follow up can be found [here](#).



Figure 1 Overview of the five projects participating in the joint kick-off meeting.

2 Demonstration activities

The demonstration cases are in their initial phase, ordering, building, and instrumenting their necessary installations.



Figure 2 New shed for PHA extraction line at Marineo's Wastewater Treatment plant.

One of the activities in Sicily is to demonstrate the extraction of polyhydroxyalcanoates (PHA) from biomass for bio-plastic production. The new shed for the PHA extraction line has been completed at the Marineo's Wastewater Treatment Plan WWTP (Figure 2).

In Ghana, CSIR has recently completed the baseline study in the pilot area to establish the state of food crops and soil quality prior to the use of treated wastewater for urban farming. Further, the biochar production equipment has been assembled and tested.

Among the Norwegian activities, the water utility at Hamar (HIAS) will demonstrate a sludge processing line for recovery of P from the EBPR sludge. The process equipment for struvite recovery has been ordered.

In Amsterdam, the work has starting on the assessment of the present biocomposite material that the water utility Waternet and the industry SME partner NPSP have succeeded in producing, made from resources recovered from the whole water cycle. The workshop of the Community of Practice around the Amsterdam case took place on 27th of October (Figure 3). The participants discussed several potential topics for learning across demonstration cases.



Figure 3 Screenshot during the workshop of the Community of Practice in the Amsterdam case.

I encourage you to read the reports from the Communities of Practice workshops that have been conducted in connexion to each of the demonstration cases in the project. These first meetings have provided a good picture of the challenges that we are facing in the development of water smart solutions, and you can also see some interesting links between the demonstration cases. The workshop reports are available [here](#).

3 R&D work towards common barriers

In addition to the demonstration cases, the project is making progress in addressing the barriers for wider implementation of water smart solutions.

Monitoring and control of health and quality risks (W2): A new PhD students has just been engaged at NTNU to develop monitoring and control schemes of health and quality risks. In addition, WP2 plans to develop a database for compilation of case data. The structure of the database has been established and data gathering is ongoing.

Circular-economy and efficiency potential (W3): The first task is ongoing, namely the development of a general methodology for the assessment of circularity and resource efficiency of symbiotic solutions.

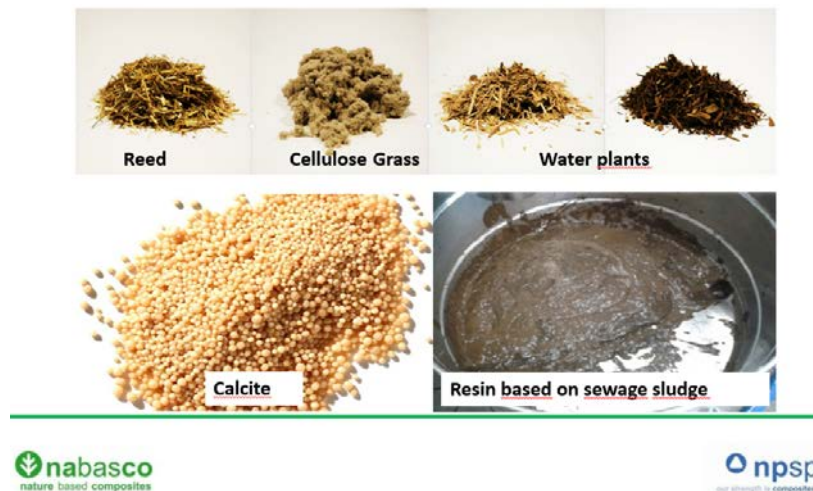


Figure 4 Next generation biocomposites: waste-based resources and materials. This new biocomposite material will be further developed in the project.

Governance and business models for industrial symbiosis (WP4): During the first year of the project, WP4 plans to develop a governance assessment tool for assessment of drivers and barriers to water-smart solutions. The tool will identify and assess prevailing regulative, political, economic and social framework conditions for implementation of the project solutions. A draft version of this governance assessment tool is being discussed. Consultation with key stakeholders will be an important input and the necessary interview guides have been prepared.

Sirkula kretsløpspark

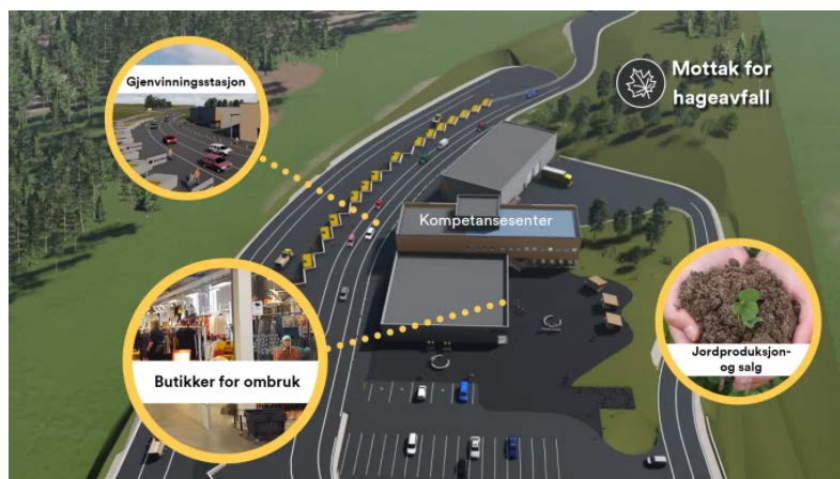


Figure 5 Sirkula's recycling park, where a modern recycling station, shops and activities for reuse and a competence center for circular economy are gathered in one place.

Measuring water smartness and progress towards SDG (WP5): WP5 is focusing now on the methodology development for the assessment of water smartness and progress towards the SDGs. This work is being done in cooperation with another European project working in the same topic "B-Water Smart".