

Innovative technology for resource recovery : a quadruple challenge

We have to face the facts: recovery of products from wastes is not proceeding as expected . Part of this due to the fact that we are locked in 'old' technology. This is particularly the case for sewage treatment which is based on anachronisms. The other reason is that waste recycling is facing many regulatory restrictions. In the EU, the latter hinder new developments and investments in cyclic economy. There is an urgent need for a new approach such as the concept of open innovation test beds. The latter can bring 4 essential partners together ie the innovator, the entrepreneur, the regulator and the citizen-consumer . By cooperation over periods of 5-10 years together, one will be able gain insights together and to avoid the current mismatches and deadlocks.

