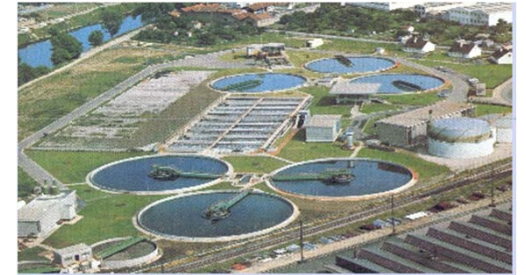


Innovative Technology for Resource Recovery : a Quadruple Challenge

W. Verstraete – Ghent University

For domestic wastewater ,we are in a historical lock-in



Sewage treatment has been designed step by step to remedy ‘annoying environmental aspects ‘

We must re-design the whole process chain to make it SUSTAINABLE

- Avoid nitrification / denitrification – capture ammonia and convert it to energy (hydrogen)
- Dare to produce not a half-product to be discharged in the river , but a real product ie potable water
-

For waste treatment in general , we face too strong regulatory restrictions

- The EU regulatory requirements for use of ‘recovered ‘ resources (such as proteins from food wastes , water , minerals , cellulose ,)

have become very severe (‘zero does not exist’)

they restrict and hinder new R&D and investments

There is a mismatch between the regulator and practice .

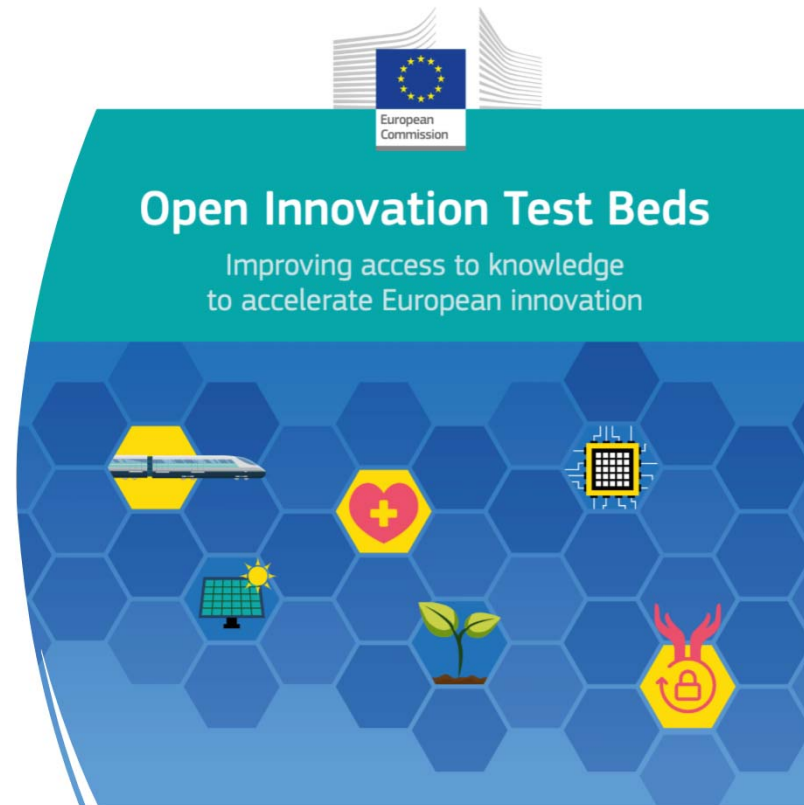
There is a need for a new approach allowing new technology and bringing forward effective resource recovery and re-use

INVOLVE

THE INNOVATOR
THE ENTREPRENEUR
THE REGULATOR
THE CITIZIN

IN A TRAJECTORY
OF COOPERATION

SPANNING PERIODS OF
5-10 YEARS



THE WAY TO GO:

TEACH /

COMMUNICATE /

CREATE FREEDOM TO TRY

PROMOTE COOPERATION