

Sustainable and safe water management in agriculture: increasing the efficiency of water reuse for crop growth while protecting ecosystems, services and citizens' welfare - REWATER

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The project

REWATER proposes to develop an innovative joint research and application of technologies producing a final integrated solution for reuse of wastewater (WW) for agricultural purposes, and their economic and environmental evaluation with a Life Cycle Assessment. This systematic approach, inspired in technological, organizational and bio-based economy, will minimize negative impacts of WW reuse in the environment, decreasing the undesirable introduction of emerging contaminants (ECs) in agriculture and aquatic systems and reducing their spread within the food chain.

Work programme includes tuned improvement or development of:

- 1) biosensors for in-field rapid and selective detection of micropollutants and their corresponding metabolites and/or degradation products (MMDs),
- 2) treatment processes for MMDs removal through integration of electrochemical and biological technologies,
- 3) ecotoxicological tools to evaluate treated water for reuse and develop expeditious surveillance, and
- 4) analytical monitoring, scaling-up and environmental/economic assessment.

REWATER will provide tools and solutions contributing to WW reuse, environmental health, and economic and social welfare.

Scientific and technological progress

- The analysis of pharmaceuticals in raw and treated wastewaters by solid phase extraction followed by ultra-high performance liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (UHPLC-MS/MS) is made, the method was validated for a total of 83 active substances.
- For the development of electrochemical sensors based on Screen-Printed Electrodes for MMDs detection the electrochemical behaviour of several compounds was studied on screen-printed carbon electrodes (SPCE).
- For the development of paper-based electroanalytical devices for MMDs detection a simple and inexpensive paper-based platform for the electrochemical detection of diclofenac was developed.
- For the development of stable iron heterogeneous catalysts and its application for degradation of MMDs the immobilization of the iron catalyst in the cathode surface was accomplished for the treatment of methylparaben.
- For the evaluation of biopellets composed of microalgae and *A. niger* for removal of selected EC experiments have been performed to determine the effect on diclofenac in water.
- For the effect-based evaluation of treated WW embryotoxicity assays and biochemical determinations were performed.

The consortium



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REWATER in newspapers



Jornal de Noticias (Portugal) September 10, 2017

La Nueva España (Spain) December 3, 2017



<https://www2.isep.ipp.pt/rewater/>