



INText PLATFORM

Innovative hybrid INTensive – EXTensive
technologies for wastewater treatment in
small communities.

WETPOL 2023



LIFE INTEXT is a project co-funded by the European
Union under the LIFE Programme Grant Agreement
no. LIFE18 ENV/ES/000233



aqualia

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INTEXT Project



❑ Partners:

- ✓ Water management, engineering and construction (Coordinator) → **Aqualia**
- ✓ 3 x I&T centres → CENTA (AMAYA), AIMEN & Aarhus University
- ✓ 4 x Technology companies → Syntea, Projar, Autarcon & FIN

❑ Budget:

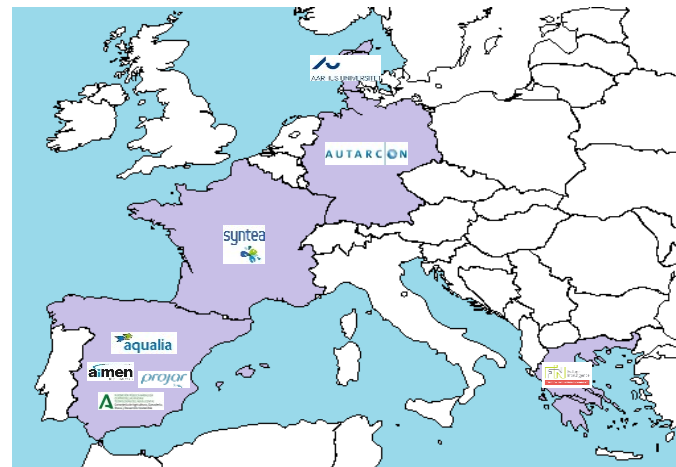
- ✓ Total: 2.926.547 €
- ✓ UE contribution: 1.596.470 €

❑ Sites:

- ✓ Talavera de la Reina WWTP (Toledo) → Aqualia
- ✓ Carrión de los Céspedes WWTP (Sevilla) → CENTA (AMAYA)

❑ Duration:

- ✓ 4 years
- ✓ 01/07/2019 – 30/06/2023 → 1-year extension (30/06/2024)



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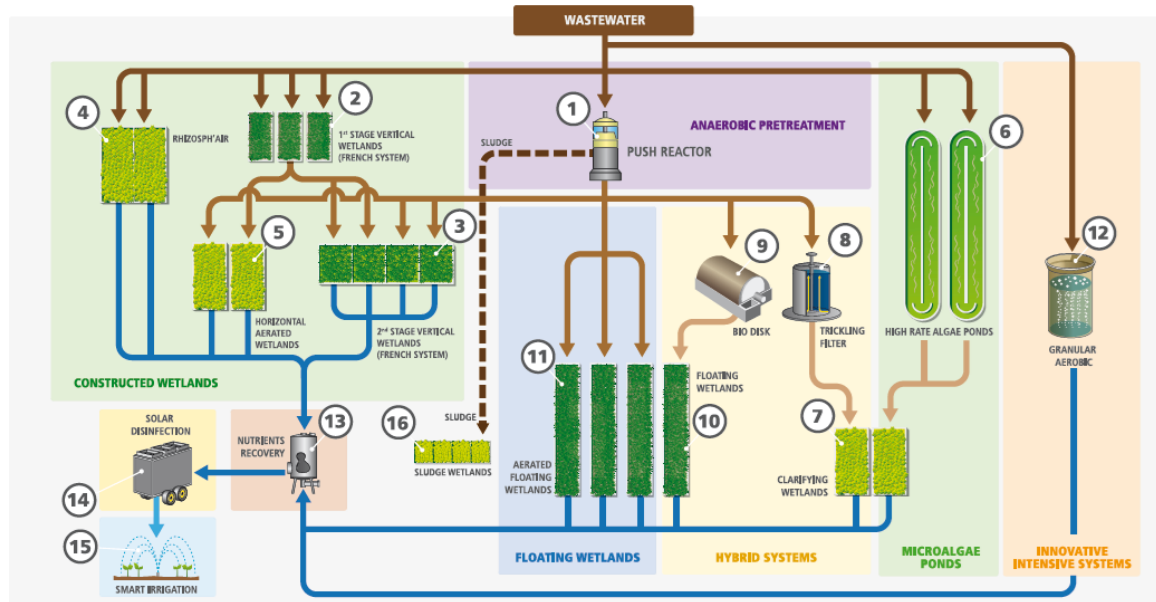
INTEXT Platform



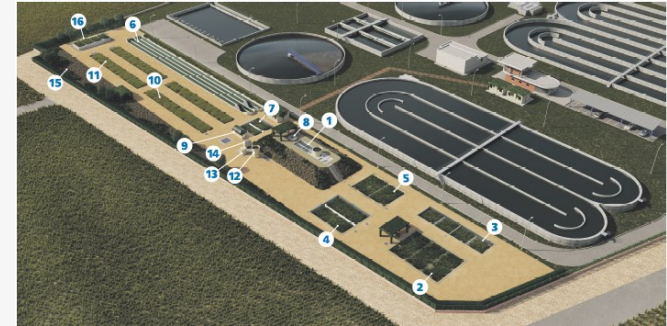
INTEXT Platform

Technology HUB

- ✓ Talavera de la Reina WWTP → + 5.800 m²
- ✓ + 16 Technologies and combinations → All sized for 125 PE
- ✓ Possibility to simulate **uncontrolled discharges** and periods of **high hydraulic load**.



#hub
INTEXT





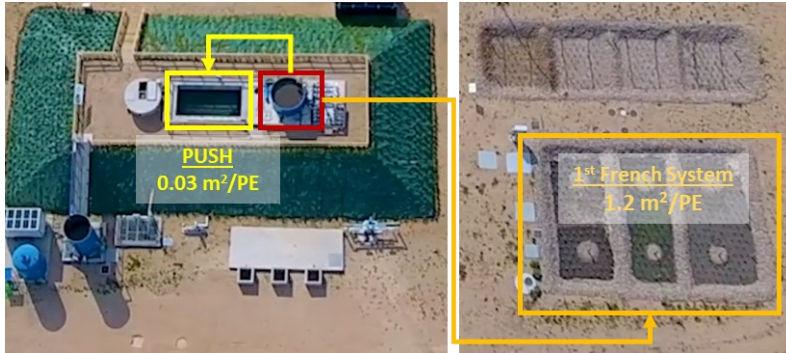
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INTEXT
Technology
benchmarking



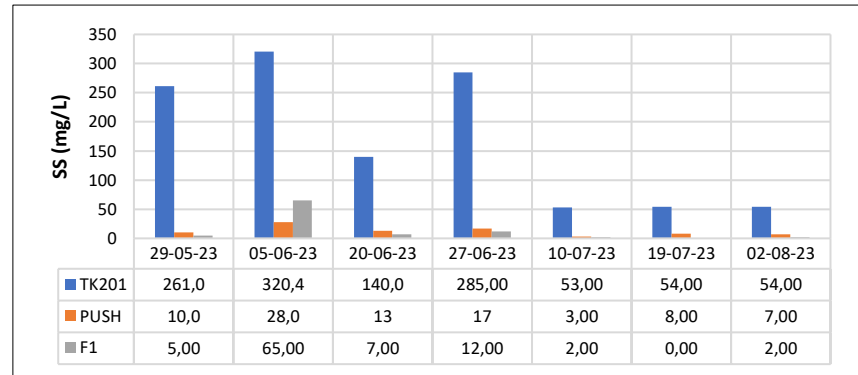
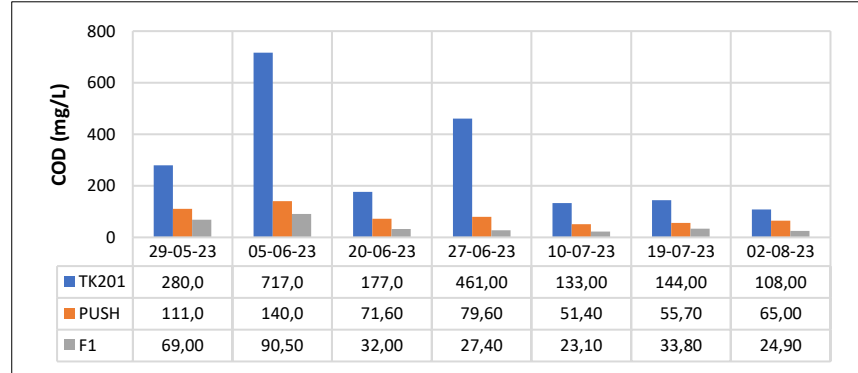
Anaerobic pre-treatment (PUSH) vs. 1st Stage French System

INTEXT Technology benchmarking



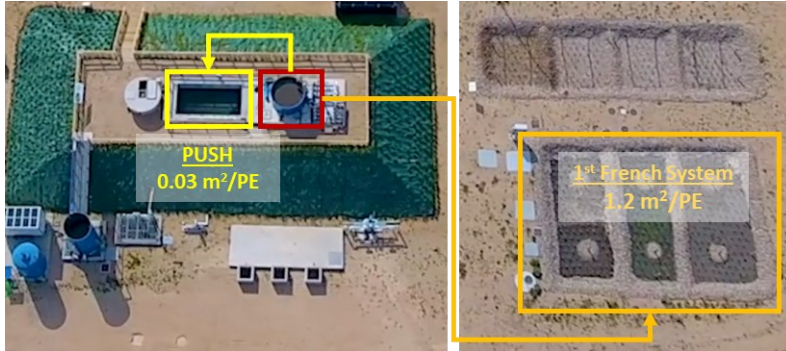
- PUSH® → Aqualia's Patented UASB anaerobic pre-treatment
- Innovative pulse feeding system
- 1st stage French system → Vertical Flow Constructed Wetland

	PUSH®	1 st French System (F1)
Feed	Raw water	Raw water
Flow	72 m ³ /day	19 m ³ /day
Footprint	0.03 m ² /PE	1.2 m ² /PE
Removal	COD & SS	COD & SS
Process	Anaerobic (Biogas)	Aerobic (No odour)
Sludge	External management	On-site management
Nutrients	Non-denitrification	Non-denitrification



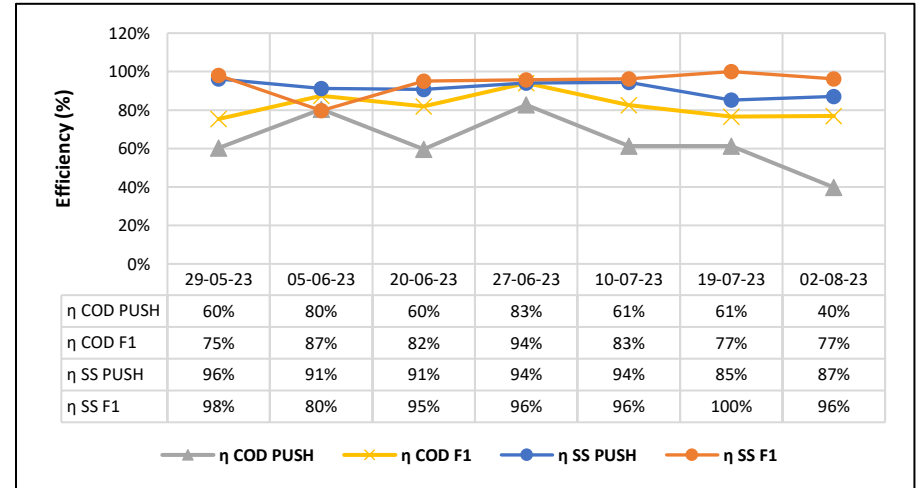
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INTEXT Technology benchmarking



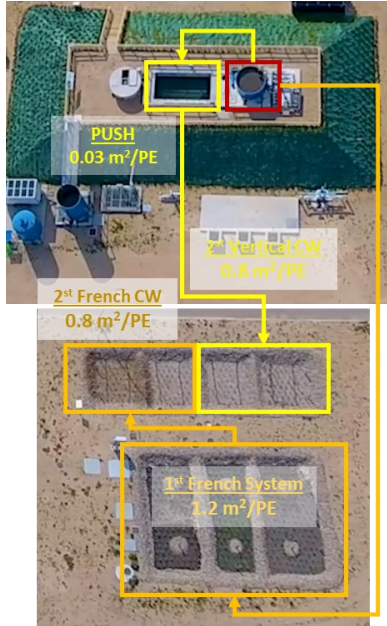
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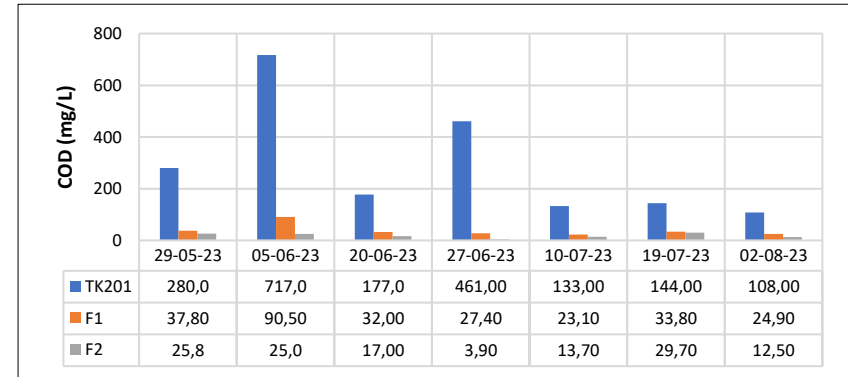
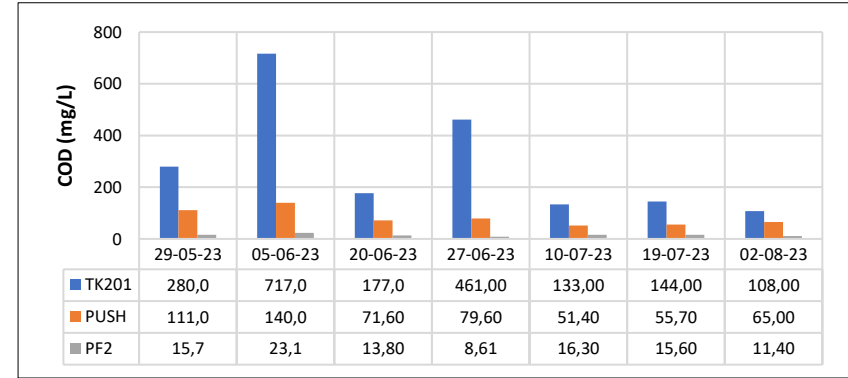
PUSH + Vertical CW vs. French CW System

INTEXT Technology benchmarking



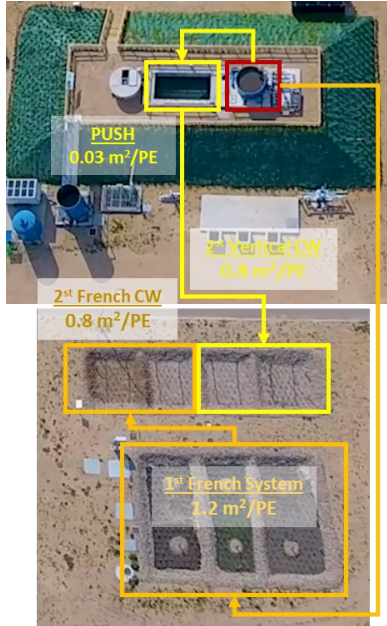
- 2nd stage French system → Vertical Flow Constructed Wetland
- 2 Beds
- Sand layer 0-4
- “Polishing” stage

	2 nd Vertical CW (PF2)	2 nd French System (F2)
Feed	PUSH effluent	1 st stage effluent
Flow	9 m ³ /day	9 m ³ /day
Footprint	0.03 + 0.8 m ² /PE	1.2 + 0.8 m ² /PE
Removal	COD & SS	COD & SS
Nutrients	Non-denitrification	Non-denitrification
Aeration	Passive	Passive



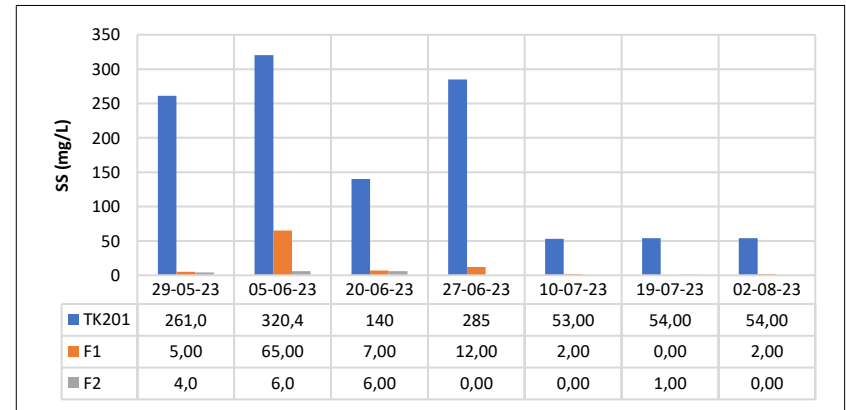
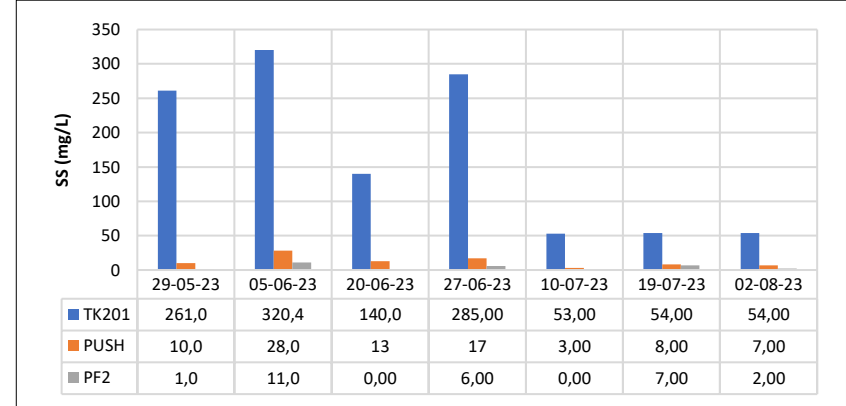
PUSH + Vertical CW vs. French CW System

INTEXT Technology benchmarking



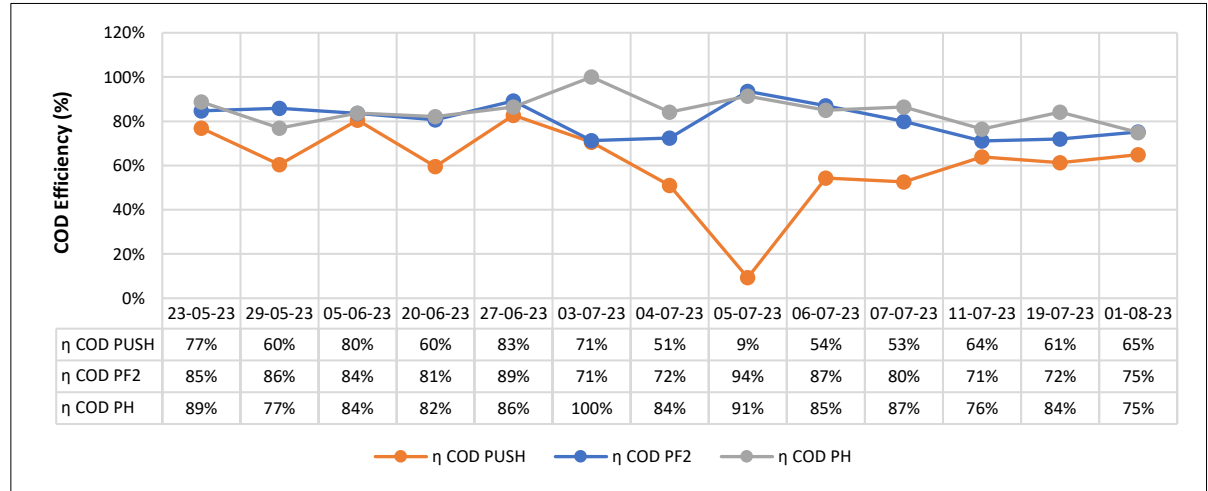
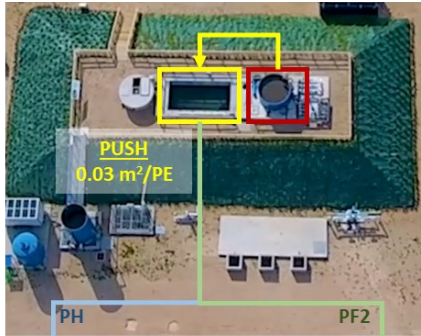
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	2 nd Vertical CW (PF2)	2 nd French System (F2)
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Removal	COD & SS	COD & SS
Nutrients	Non-denitrification	Non-denitrification
Aeration	Passive	Passive



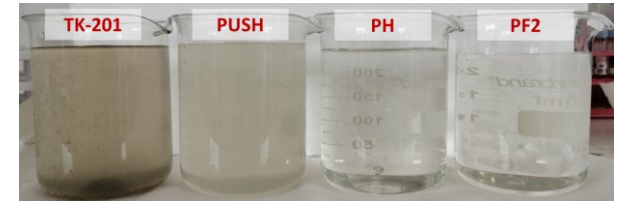
Anaerobic pre-treatment (PUSH) + Vertical / Horizontal Constructed Wetland

INTEXT Technology benchmarking



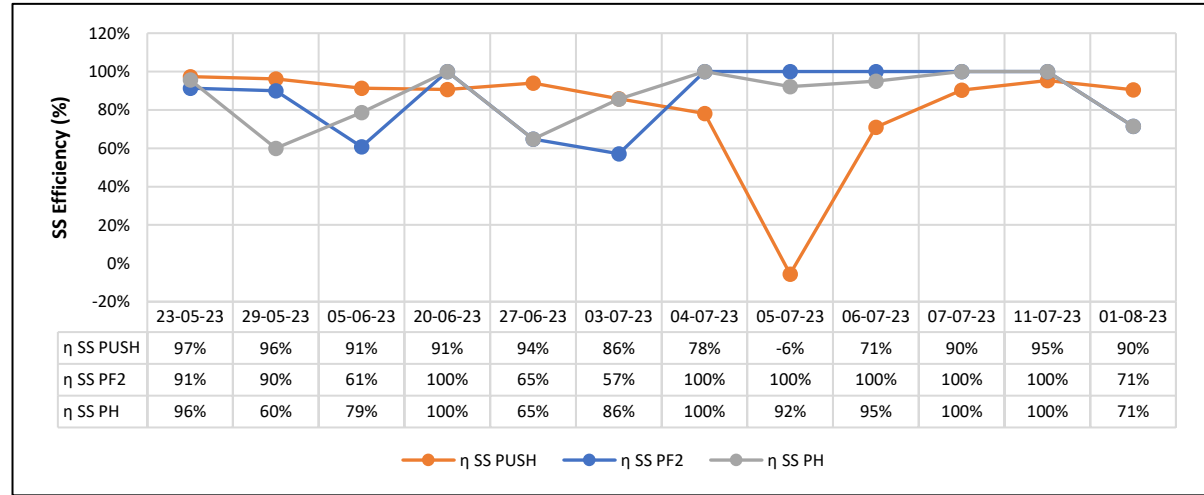
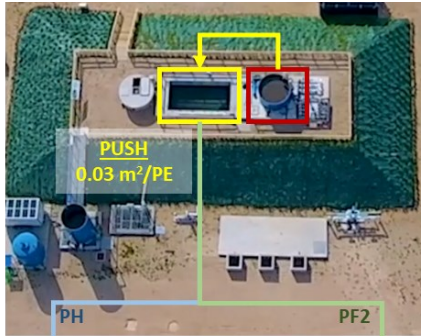
- Horizontal Flow Constructed Wetland:
 - 2 Beds
 - Gravel layer 0-4
 - Possible to feed continuously

	Horizontal CW (PH)	2nd Vertical CW (PF2)
Feed	PUSH effluent	1st stage effluent
Flow	12 m ³ /day	9 m ³ /day
Footprint	0.03 + 0.9 m ² /PE	0.03 + 0.8 m ² /PE
Removal	COD & SS	COD & SS
Nutrients	Denitrification	Non-denitrification
Aeration	Forced	Passive



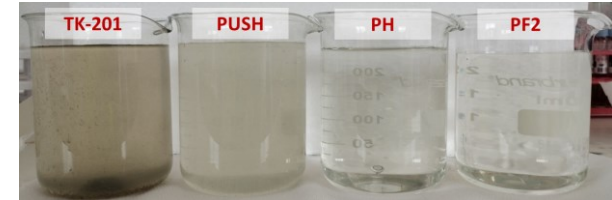
Anaerobic pre-treatment (PUSH) + Vertical / Horizontal Constructed Wetland

INTEXT Technology benchmarking



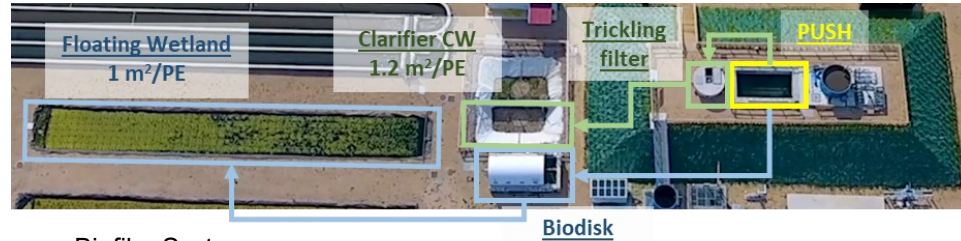
- Horizontal Flow Constructed Wetland:
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	Horizontal CW (PH)	2nd Vertical CW (PF2)
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Flow	12 m ³ /day	9 m ³ /day
Footprint	0.03 + 0.9 m ² /PE	0.03 + 0.8 m ² /PE
Removal	COD & SS	COD & SS
Nutrients	Denitrification	Non-denitrification
Aeration	Forced	Passive



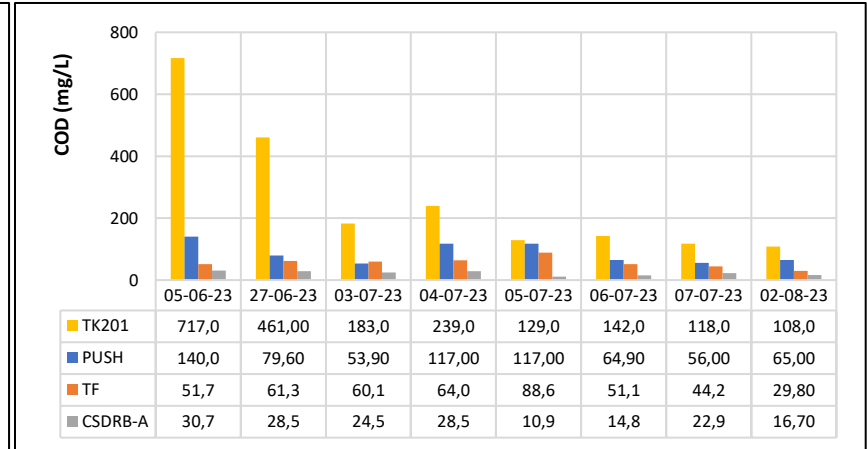
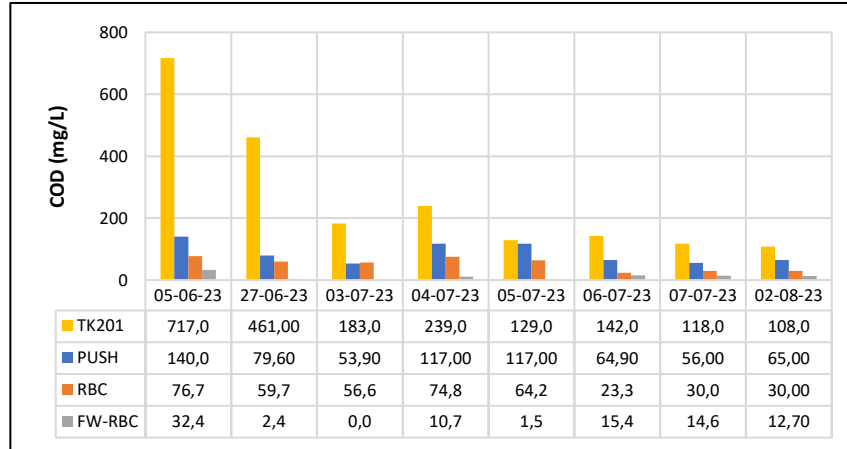
PUSH + Biofilm Systems (Biodisk / Tricking filter) + Clarifier / Floating Wetland

INTEXT Technology benchmarking



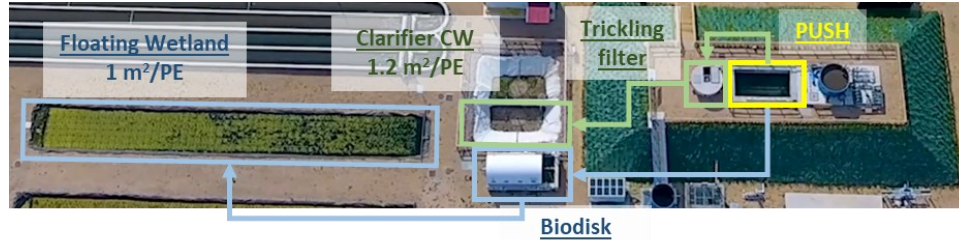
- Biofilm Systems:
 - Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC) → Internal recirculation
 - Tricking Filter (TF) → Natural or forced aeration

	RBC	TF
Feed	PUSH effluent	PUSH effluent
Flow	19 m ³ /day	19 m ³ /day
Footprint	0.3 m ² /PE	0.3 m ² /PE
Removal	COD & SS	COD & SS
Biofilm	Rotative high specific surface disk	High specific surface plastic material
Nutrients	Non-denitrification	Non-denitrification

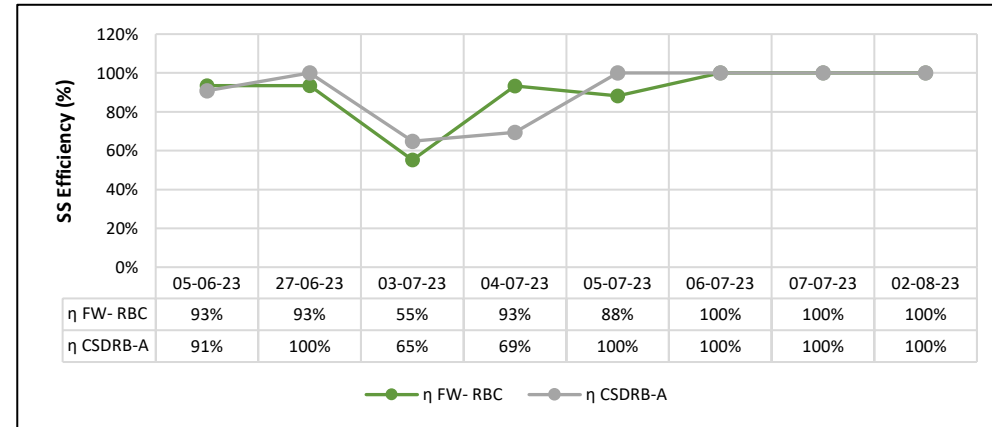


PUSH + Biofilm Systems (Biodisk / Tricking filter) + Clarifier / Floating Wetland

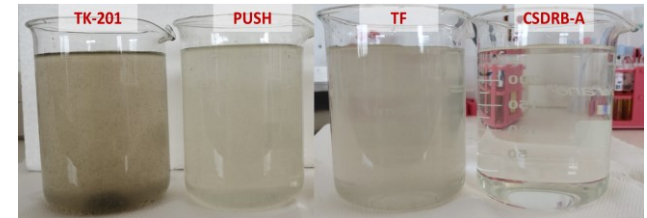
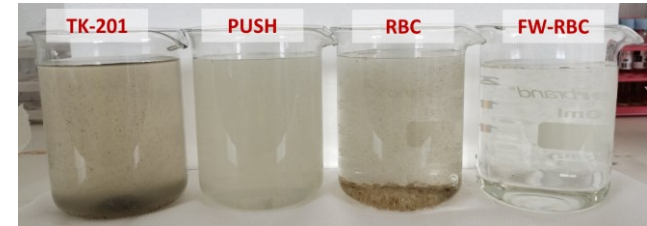
INTEXT Technology benchmarking



- Post-treatment of biofilm systems:
 - Floating Wetland (FW)
 - Clarifier Constructed Wetland (CSDRB) → Secondary clarifier



	Floating wetland (FW)	Clarifier CW (CSDRB)
Feed	RBC effluent	TF effluent
Flow	19 m³/day	6 m³/day
Footprint	1 m²/PE	0.5 m²/PE
Removal	SS	SS
Sludge	On-site management	On-site management
Nutrients	Nitrification	Nitrification



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Conclusions



Take-home message

Conclusions

✓ INTEXT Platform:

- + 16 Technologies sized for 125PE → Results under **real conditions**.
- + **Multiple combinations** and possibility to perform different organic and hydraulic tests.
- + Continuous sensors (Ox, Redox, pH), weekly sampling and special sampling campaigns for emerging pollutants.

✓ INTEXT Technologies data:

- + **Preliminary results**, expected to collect data for a full year.
- + With low organic load wastewater, the anaerobic system (**PUSH**) alone is able to achieve an effluent suitable for discharge.
- + **1st French stage** wetland has high COD and SS removal efficiencies. It can also manage the sludge on site, which makes it a very interesting system.
- + **2nd French stage** is very interesting as a polishing stage to remove COD and SS. The quality of the effluent after this system is excellent.
- + An **Aerated Horizontal wetland** as a 2nd stage is very interesting compared to a Vertical 2nd stage, as these systems can be fed continuously, and aeration reduces clogging and denitrification is achieved.
- + **Clarification systems** such as FW and CSDRB are very interesting in addition to biofilm systems because they are able to retain the released biomass with very high efficiency.





THANK YOU!
QUESTIONS?

www.life-intext.eu





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Rubén Hervás - **WETPOL 2023**



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