

# Sustainable Innovations and Treatment in Industrial Waste Water Clusters

## ■ MAIN OBJECT

The overall objective of the STInno project is to strengthen the internationally acting regional clusters via their regional innovation systems, to create value-added networks, to develop platforms for technology solutions developers and to exchange industrial wastewater treatment know-how.

The STInno project involves 3 research driven clusters and 12 partners from 5 European countries with a common objective to strengthen RTD resources in industrial wastewater treatment and to become world leaders in sustainable, cost and energy efficient methods.

The regions have a clear focus on clean technologies and complement each other as they are in different stage in their cluster development, RTD policies, disciplines and sustainability. Through the expertise of the RTD partners an enormous amount of knowledge on wastewater treatment, methods and techniques is generated while for small economies, value-added networks are solutions.

Specific development activities will be carried out in the olive mill wastewater sector. The reasons for this particular focus are the enormous environmental problems caused by the untreated olive mill wastewaters.

*More specific objectives of the project are the following:*

1. To strengthen the research potential and infrastructure of the participating EU regions in Finland, Sweden and Greece by encouraging and supporting regional industrial wastewater regional research driven clusters.
2. To stimulate the clusters through the development of Joint Action Plan.

3. To create the preconditions for reaching the future global market by preparing the Joint Action Plan implementation steps in industrial wastewater treatment for the participating regions.
4. To increase the competitiveness of the partner organisations through mentoring.
5. To deepen the understanding of ecological utilization of water resources.
6. To provide policy recommendations and suggest joint future actions in industrial wastewater quality indicators and EU legislation .

## ■ EXPECTED IMPACT

The STInno project will support the EU environmental policies, not only by offering updated information about the R&D priorities, but also offering raised awareness to educate the end-users, especially the olive mill owners, in safe and correct means of waste management.

The scopes of this project substantially fits into the national and EU-level guidelines, since aiming to both raise environmental awareness, by evidencing ecological risks and damages caused by the incorrect management of industrial wastewaters and support the diffusion of information on possible eco-friendly approaches needed for the valorisation of the wastes.

The consortium has a strong triple-helix approach but, at the same time, wants to look at the problems of industrial wastewater treatment from the demand and provision point of view.

## COLLABORATIVE ENTITIES OF THE PROJECT

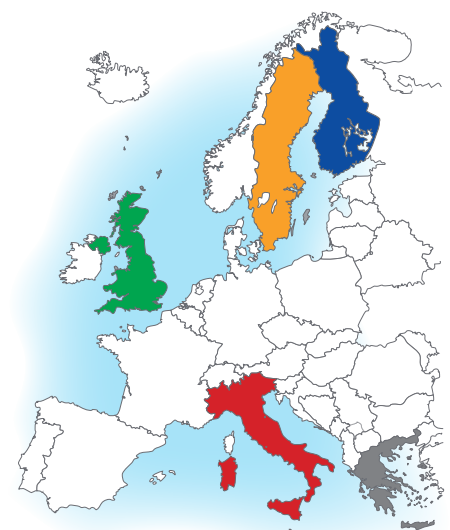
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Regional Council of Päijät-Häme, Päijät-Häme, Finland.  
Lappeenranta University of Technology, Päijät-Häme, Finland.  
Aalto University School of Science and Technology, Lahti Center, Päijät-Häme, Finland.

Sustainable Sweden Southeast, Kalmar, Sweden.  
Regional Council of Kalmar, Kalmar, Sweden.  
Linnaeus University Kalmar, Kalmar, Sweden.

Patras Science Park, Western Greece.  
Regional Council of Western Greece, Western Greece.  
Foundation of Research and Technology of Hellas/ICE-HT, Western Greece.

International Association of Mediterranean Agro-Industrial Waste, Perugia, Italy.

Lancaster Environment Centre (LEC), United Kingdom.



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