

# Newsletter

Nº 4 / June 2019



Life

**ALCHEMIA**

With the contribution of the LIFE Programme of the European Union



LIFE16 ENV/ES/000437

## ACTIONS COMPLETED

### INSTALLATION OF THE PILOT PLANTS IN THE PROVINCE OF ALMERÍA

At the beginning of the year, the **previous works** began, where the earthworks necessary for the installation and assembly of the pilot plants in the Almería municipalities were carried out, the construction of concrete platforms that support the filtration tanks and the fenced perimeter security to prevent the access to unauthorized personnel.

During the execution of the Works, the technical team of **Diputación de Almería** was commissioned to carry out a visit to **control the workshop** in the contractor's facilities, where the equipment and valves to be installed were checked and verified. Finally, the **installation and assembly** of the pilot plants ended last March.



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### STAR-UP OF THE PILOT PLANTS (ALMERÍA)

Once installed the pilot plants in Alboloduy, Benizalón and Tahal, began the **start-up and operation** of the pilot plants, based on the initial conditions previously established.



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In order to verify the compliance with the drinking water quality standards and the optimal operation of the pilot plants, the **CIESOL** team has carried out the **first sampling** in the filtration, washing and filter material stages of the filtration tanks.

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## ACTIONS COMPLETED

### OPERATION OF THE VIIMSI PILOT PLANT (ESTONIA): SAMPLING



The Viimsi pilot plant continues to operate with the different treatment schemes proposed, and to **monitor the parameters** that verify the optimal operation of the plant.

The **University of Tartu** team continues **sampling** in each one of the pilot plant stages, according to the established sampling plan, in order to detect any nonconformity to be able to adjust the treatment process.

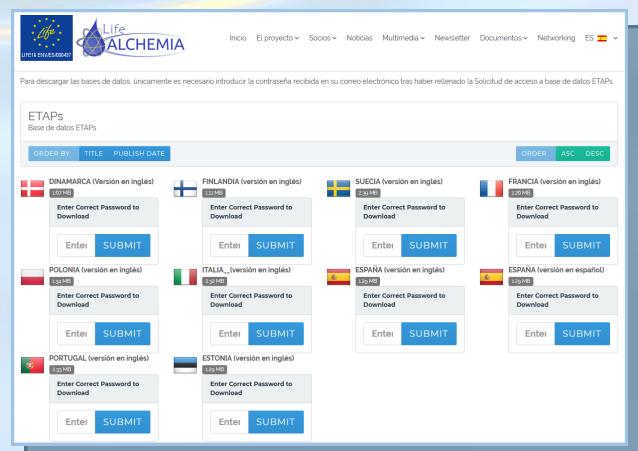
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### DATABASE OF EUROPEAN DWTP<sub>s</sub> TREATING WATER WITH NATURAL RADIOACTIVITY

**New countries** have been added to the **database** of DWTPs treating water with natural radioactivity. Finland, Denmark and Belgium, among others.

In addition, the databases that are already available continue to be updated and add more data in the Spanish database.

To access the database, it is necessary to **request access** to the LIFE ALCHEMIA team through a short form available on the project website.



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## ACTIONS COMPLETED

### THIRD COORDINATION MEETING—MONITORING

Last May, the third **coordination** and second **monitoring meeting** was held at the **CIESOL** facilities (**Almería**), to which all the project partners and the **NEEMO-IDOM** monitor attended.

Mainly, the technical advances of the project were presented, the progress of each of the actions carried out by the consortium, and monitoring the economic and financial part carried out so far.

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### VISIT TO THE PILOT PLANTS IN THE PROVINCE OF ALMERÍA

All the project partners together with the NEEMO-IDOM monitor visited the pilot plants installed in Alboloduy, Benizalón and Tahal (Almería). The technical team of **Diputación de Almería** explained to the rest of the partners the operation and control of Alchemia treatment plants, as well as the requirements and characteristics taken into account for their design and construction.

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## ACTIONS COMPLETED— DISSEMINATION

### DISSEMINATION TALK IN THE DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE

Within the planned **educational events** in the project, our partner from **CIESOL**, Jose Luis Casas, gave a **dissemination talk** in the Gádor college (Almería), to disseminate the project.

It was framed within the activities of the **Science Week** of the college.



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### PUBLICATION IN THE JOURNAL OF SUSTAINABLE MINING AND RETEMA



LIFE ALCHEMIA has published an **dissemination article** of the project in the **number 212** January/February 2019 of the **RETEMA** journal.

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Also, on the occasion of the participation of LIFE ALCHEMIA in the 1<sup>st</sup> International Workshop **ENA** (European Norm Association), our partners from the **University of Tartu** have published a **scientific paper** (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsm.2019.02.006>) in the **Journal of Sustainable Mining**.



## ACTIONS COMPLETED— DISSEMINATION

### XXXIV CHEMISTRY DAYS IN ESTONIA

LIFE ALCHEMIA was present and participated in the scientific conference organized by the **Estonian Chemical Society** on the occasion of its **100th anniversary**.

Our partner from the **Tallinn University of Technology (TalTech)**, Ph. Anna Goi presented the progress of the project.

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### XVIII NORDIC SOCIETY FOR RADIATION PROTECTION CONFERENCE (NSFS 2019)

Our partner from the **University of Tartu (Estonia)**, Siiri Suursoo, participated in the XVIII **NSFS Conference** which was held in the Hanaholmen, Espoo/Helsinki (Finland).

Within **session 9 “Modern radioecology”**, the results obtained so far in the project were presented.

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## ACTIONS COMPLETED— DISSEMINATION

### 7<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RADIATION IN VARIOUS FIELDS OF RESEARCH (RAD 2019)

Our partner from the **Tallinn University of Technology (TalTech)**, Ph. Anna Goi, participated in the **RAD Conference** which was held in Herceg Novi (Montenegro).

Some of the results of the project so far were presented in the "**Environmental Chemistry**" session.

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### LIFE ALCHEMIA ON RADIO

Our partners from **Diputación de Almería**, Francisco Javier Martínez and Isabel Rodríguez, participated in several radio programs. They were interviewed in the "**Hoy por hoy Almería**" program in a special on water resources/water.

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They also participated in the **Radio Ecocampus** program of the **University of Almería** on the occasion of **World Water Day**, where listeners were informed about the objectives to be achieved and the current phase in which the LIFE ALCHEMIA project is being developed.

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## ACTIONS COMPLETED— DISSEMINATION

### DISSEMINATION MATERIAL

Four notice boards of the project have been installed in the vicinity of the DWTPs where the four pilot plants are installed. In **Alboloduy, Tahal, Benizalón** in the province of Almería and in **Viimsi** in Estonia.

These notice boards will serve to **inform citizens** about the objectives of the LIFE ALCHEMIA project, as well as to explain that this project will be carried out in a previous stage to the current treatment systems that purify the water supplied to each of the selected municipalities, so that the quality of water is guaranteed at all times, complying with the parameters required by the legislation.



### LIFE ALCHEMIA IN PRESS MEDIA

Many communication media have informed about the last advances and actions carried out by the project's partnership. Below are some of the **news** that has appeared both in the general press and specialized in the water field and that have served to inform the public the objectives and progress of the project.

**Comienzan en Alboloduy las obras de la "potabilizadora sostenible" del proyecto Life Alchemia+**

El proyecto de investigación "Life Alchemia+", que busca mejorar y hacer más eficiente el proceso de tratamiento de aguas, ya ha comenzado con las obras de construcción de la "potabilizadora sostenible" en el municipio de Alboloduy. Ésta será la primera de las tres plantas piloto que se construirán en la provincia y que también llegarán a los municipios de Tahal y Benizalón.



**Almería recibe a los socios de "Life+ Alchemia" como epicentro de la investigación hídrica**

Almería ha acogido la reunión de los socios del proyecto de partneredo Life+Alchemia que ha convertido Almería en el epicentro de la investigación hídrica.



**Arrancan en Alboloduy las obras de la potabilizadora "sostenible" de LIFE Alchemia**





## NEXT ACTIONS

- **EVALUATION OF DIFFERENT SCENARIOS** for the treatment of radioactivity (cost-benefit analysis)
- The necessary tasks will be initiated to carry out the **REPLICATION OF THE TECHNOLOGY** studies in the interested entities.
- **UPDATE** of the Spanish and European **DWTPs DATABASE** that treat waters with natural radioactivity.
- **MONITORING** of the environmental **INDICATORS** and socio-economic impact of the project.
- **EVENTS**

4th IWA Spain National Young Water Professionals Conference (YWP 2019)

12-15 November 2019 Madrid (Spain) (<http://ywp-spain.es/index.php/congreso-ywp-2019/>)

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