

# Newsletter

Nº 6 / June 2020



With the contribution of the LIFE Programme of the European Union



LIFE16 ENV/ES/000437

## ACTIONS COMPLETED

### STOP OF THE PILOT PLANTS OPERATION IN THE PROVINCE OF ALMERÍA

The **operation of the three pilot plants** installed in Almería for the development of the LIFE ALCHEMIA project were stopped at the beginning of the year, while waiting to obtain a series of analytical results necessary to be able to act on the operating conditions. In addition, in March the state of alarm was decreed in Spain due to the Covid-19. For these reasons, the pilot plants operation has been stopped.



During the state of alarm, the technicians of the **Diputación de Almería** were able to obtain special travel permits to carry out the set-up of the LIFE ALCHEMIA facilities. Currently, **CIESOL** has been able to resume experimentation in the pilot plants of the project, modifying the operating conditions in order to achieve results under different exploitation strategies.

### STOPPING AND STARTING THE VIIMSI PILOT PLANT (ESTONIA)

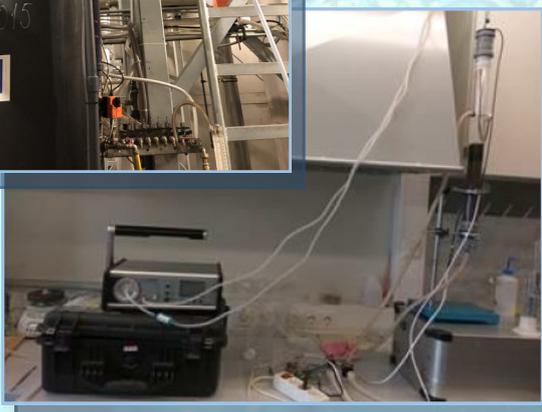


The **Viimsi pilot plant** was also stop early March, due to the pandemic Covid-19.

At the end of May, **Viimsi Vesi Ltd. started up the pilot plant again.** A check was carried out on the pilot plant, thus verifying its correct operation.

The **results** obtained so far, are quite promising, achieving **removal of radio** around **90%**.

In addition, partners from **University of Tartu** and **Tallinn University of Technology**, are carrying out laboratory-scale tests for the determination of radon in the gas phase in the filter.



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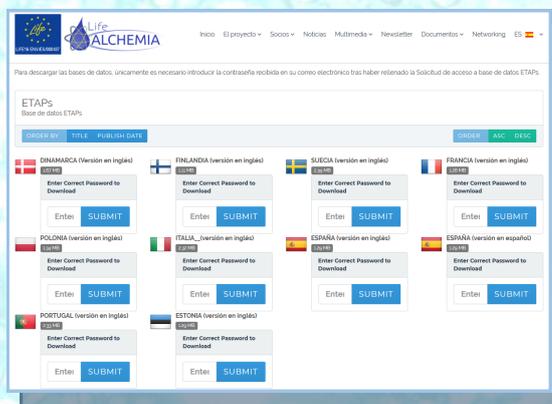


## ACTIONS COMPLETED

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

The databases that are already available continue to be updated and more data are being added to the Spanish database. Further databases containing DWTPs that treat water with natural radioactivity from other EU countries keep being added.

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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### COST ANALYSIS

Our partners from **University of Tartu** have developed a **cost-benefit analysis tool** to help water treatment plant managers make a rational choice between different treatment technologies based on selected criteria and local conditions.

With this tool, the **evaluation** of different scenarios for the **comprehensive treatment of radioactivity** will be carried out



## ACTIONS COMPLETED

### CELEBRATION OF THE FIRST LIFE ALCHEMIA TRAINING SEMINAR

The first training seminar *“Purification of Natural Drinking Water Radionuclides and NORM Management Options”* was held last March in Viimsi (Estonia), organized by our partners from Estonia (University of Tartu, mainly, together with the Technological University Tallinn and Viimsi Vesi Ltd.)



The seminar gave an overview of the problems related to radionuclides removal from groundwater and presented the preliminary results and activities of the

project.

The involvement of **international experts**, such as Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (**STUK**) and World Health Organization (**WHO**), among others, added comparison concerning the approach of managing radioactivity in drinking water in other countries.

The seminar was attended by public administrations, water treatment plant operators, among others.

All the information about the seminar and the **speakers presentations** at: <https://www.lifealchemy.eu/life-alchemy-training-seminar-3-4-march-2020-viimsi-estonia/>

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## ACTIONS COMPLETED

### FOURTH PROJECT COORDINATION MEETING

In March, the **fourth project coordination meeting** was held in **Viimsi (Estonia)**, which was attended by all the project partners.

Progress in each of the project tasks was presented and experiences and ideas were exchanged to carry out some of the activities.



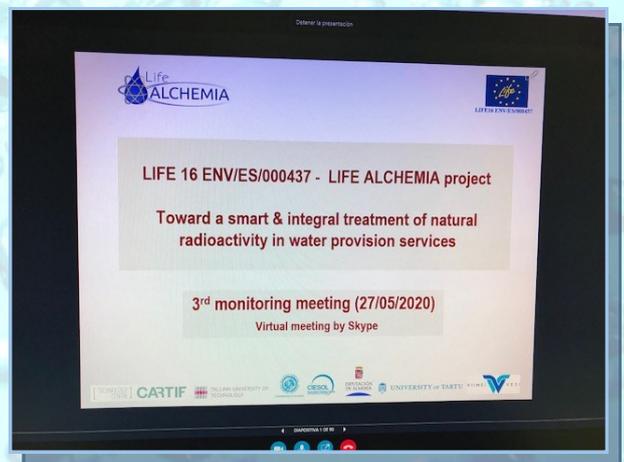
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### THIRD PROJECT MONITORING MEETING

Last May, the **third project monitoring meeting** was held.

This time, all **project partners** and the **NEEMO-IDOM monitor** met via Skype, due to the current situation by Covid-19.

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## NEXT ACTIONS

- **GUIDE—MANUAL** of the Cost Analysis tool.
- **UPDATE** of Spanish and European **DATABASE** of the DWTPs that treat waters with natural radioactivity.
- **MONITORING** of the environmental **INDICATORS** and socio-economic impact of the project.
- **5th COORDINATION—MONITORING MEETING** in Almería. **EASME-CE** visit.
- **EVENTS:**

International Conference on the Management of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials (NORM) in Industry.

19-23 October 2020, Vienna (Austria). (<https://www.iaea.org/events/norm-2020>)

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