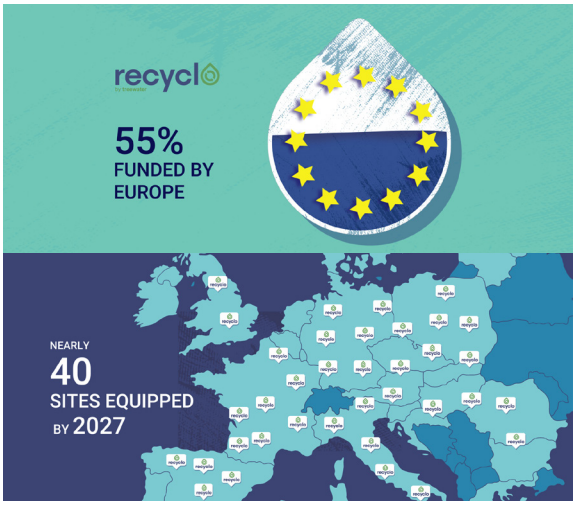
THE LIFE RECYCLO PROJECT

Newsletter #3
Autumn 2023

A European project

The Life RECYCLO project was made possible thanks to co-funding from **the European Commission's LIFE programme**. This support for environmental and climate initiatives has enabled this ambitious project to be rolled out in **Spain, France and Luxembourg** since September 2021.

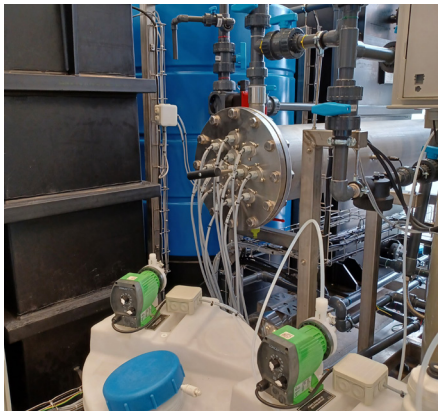
A spin-off of Treewater, this project contributes to the development and **industrialisation of the RECYCLO process**, which recycles waste water from laundries. The long-term goal is to have **40 sites equipped** with this waste water recycling system by 2027.



Project news

Technical achievements

The first prototype of the RECYCLO system was completed at the Treewater site in September. It was then transported to Girona, Spain, where it was installed in the **Ramon Noguera Foundation's laundry**.



Installed in October, it is monitored and analysed by Treewater and the Catalan Institute for Water Research, with regular samples taken before and after the water is treated. The effectiveness of the process now needs to be verified, in particular **its ability to eliminate the pollutants** from washing machines present in the waste water.
The aim is to **reduce pollutants by up to 90%**!

Once the process has been validated, the treated and purified water will be put back into the laundry's water circuit to be **reused for washing laundry**.

Pollutant analysis

As part of the project, the **Catalan Institute for Water Research** is in charge of studying the pollutants. The pollutants found in laundry water are very specific. They include phthalates (DEHP, DEP, etc.), phenols, heavy metals, etc. Some of these pollutants are **endocrine disruptors**, i.e. substances that can interfere with the hormonal functions of living organisms, which can have harmful effects on human health.

During the project, the Institute's partners were able to **improve the analysis and detection of these substances** in grey water, and in particular the **detection of 14 endocrine disruptors in laundry water**. This refined methodology is an important tool for monitoring the presence of these harmful substances. All the more so given that this water can be transformed into a new resource thanks to water reuse techniques.

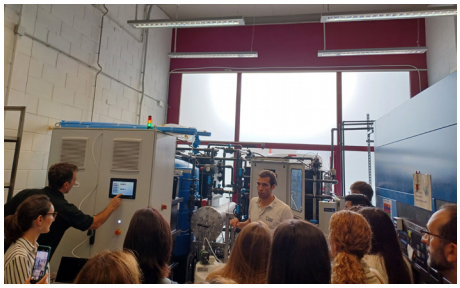
Read the Institute's publication: Turull M. et al., Water Emerg Contam Nanoplastics (2023).

Dissemination of the project

THE LIFE RECYCLO EVENT

To mark the **installation of the first prototype**, the project partners held a technology launch event in Girona on 26 October. Around thirty people, including scientists, laundry managers and journalists, attended a **presentation of the project**, **a tour of the Catalan Institute for Water Research laboratories** and **a presentation of the prototype** installed in the Grupo Fundacio Ramon Noguera laundry.





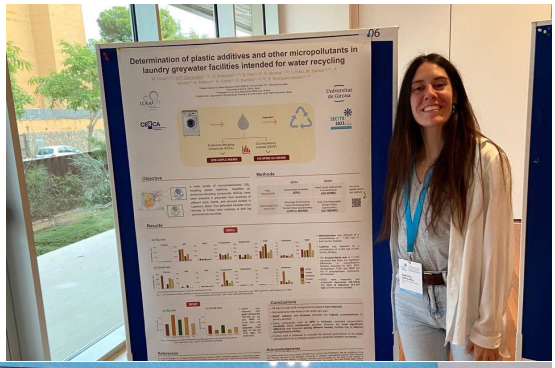
You can also find Recyclo at:

Three professional events:

- Pollutec, from 10 to 13 October in Lyon (France)
- SECYTA 2023, from 16 to 18 October in Mallorca (Spain)
- EMEC23, from 3 to 6 December in Budva (Montenegro)

As well as one event for the general public:

- The Science Fair, 11 October in Lyon (France)




What's next?

Coming soon

Following the installation of the prototypes in Spain, the water will be **monitored and analysed** by Treewater and the Catalan Institute for Water Research. Stay tuned for the results in a few months' time.

A **second prototype** is expected to be installed at the Klin laundry in Luxembourg in the spring of 2024.

A **three-part documentary** telling the story of the project will be broadcast in January 2024.

You will be able to find us:

- **On 15 December 2023**, during an ETSA videoconference, online
- **From 31 January to 1 February 2024**, at the Carrefour des Gestions Locales de l'Eau in Rennes (France): details here
- Other dates coming soon: all our events here

Follow us on social networks: **@LifeRECYCLO**

@life-recyclo

And discover all our latest news on our website: **www.treewater.fr/en/recyclo**