

Life RECYCLO project

Life RECYCLO is a European project led by **TreeWater**, a company specialising in wastewater recycling. The aim of this project is to propose better management of water resources for the laundry sector and to reduce the discharge of polluting substances into the aquatic environment.

In Europe, there are about **11,000 laundries**, whose water consumption is estimated at over 40 million m³ per year. This sector also generates large quantities of micropollutants, such as phthalates (DEHP, DEP, etc.), phenols, heavy metals, solvents and surfactants, which are very poorly treated in wastewater treatment plants. Even in low concentrations, these substances can have an impact on both humans and the environment.

The project will then result in the development of an **advanced oxidation treatment system** to treat and recycle wastewater from laundries. This process will remove over 90% of the pollutants. This recycled water will then be reused by the same laundries in their cleaning process, saving 50 to 80% of water. Prototypes will be tested in three laundries **in France, Spain and Luxembourg**. The aim is to determine the efficiency of the process and its reproducibility. In parallel, a survey will also be conducted among laundries and their customers to assess their perception of wastewater reuse in this context.

This project is part of the **European Commission's LIFE programme**, which funds environmental and climate initiatives. It involves six partners. TreeWater is the project leader. The three member laundries are Blanchisserie Saint-Jean (France), Fundacio Mas Xirgu (GRUPFRN - Spain) and KLIN SARL (Luxembourg). The Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA - Spain) is in charge of developing innovative methods for the analysis of hazardous substances. And Pop'Sciences from the University of Lyon (France) is in charge of the project's communication and the elaboration of the perception survey. The project runs from **September 2021 to February 2024**.

More information on <http://treewater.fr/en/recyclo>

