



# ZeroPM: Zero pollution of persistent, mobile substances

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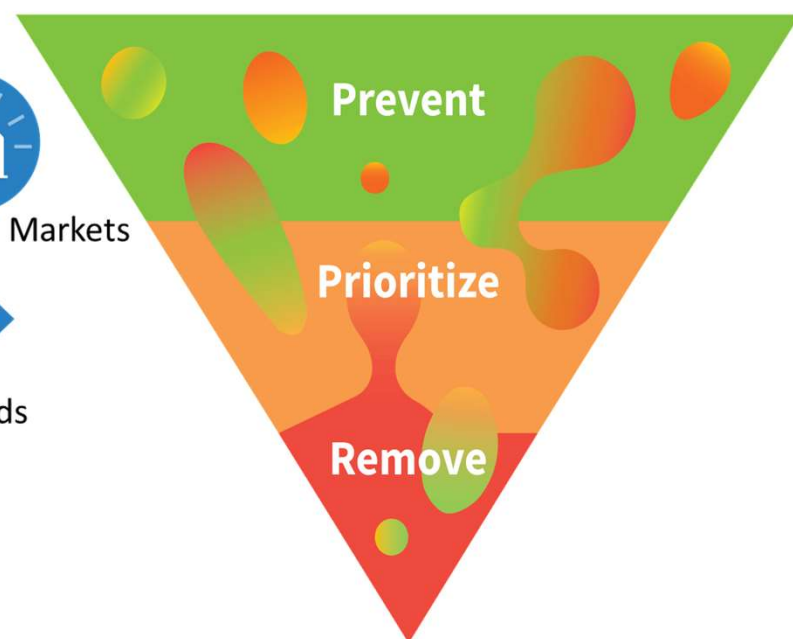
# Zero pollution of persistent and mobile substances

- ZeroPM will interlink and synergize three strategies to protect the environment and human health from persistent, mobile substances: **Prevent, Prioritize and Remove.**

## Multilevel framework



ZeroPM



Project period:  
October 2021 to September 2026  
Project budget: 11.6 million Euro



# ZeroPM's objectives

To establish an evidence-based multilevel framework for minimising use, emissions and pollution from PM substances to protect European water resources and avoid risks to humans.

- Subobjectives

## PREVENT

- ▼ Provide safer chemical alternatives to non-essential uses of PM substances
- ▼ Stimulate and support policy changes to more effectively tackle PM substances
- ▼ Assist a market transition away from harmful PM substances

## PRIORITIZE

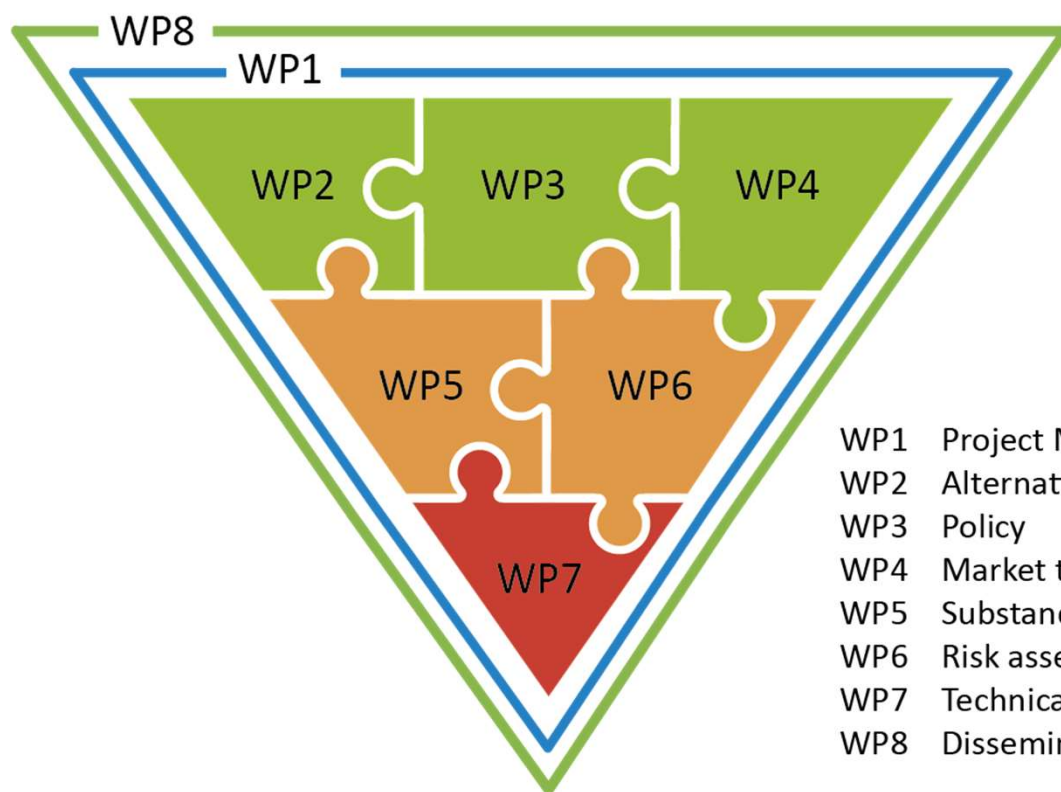
- ▼ Prioritize PM substances and substance groups on the global chemical market for prevention and removal
- ▼ Characterise and quantify impacts of PM substances on human health and the environment

## REMOVE

- ▼ Demonstrate how and if legacy PM substance pollution can be remediated



# ZeroPM's work packages



- WP1 Project Management
- WP2 Alternatives Assessment
- WP3 Policy
- WP4 Market transition
- WP5 Substance grouping
- WP6 Risk assessment
- WP7 Technical solutions
- WP8 Dissemination & Communication



# WP7 Technical Solutions

**Objective:** to demonstrate how and if legacy and prioritized PM substance pollution can be remediated

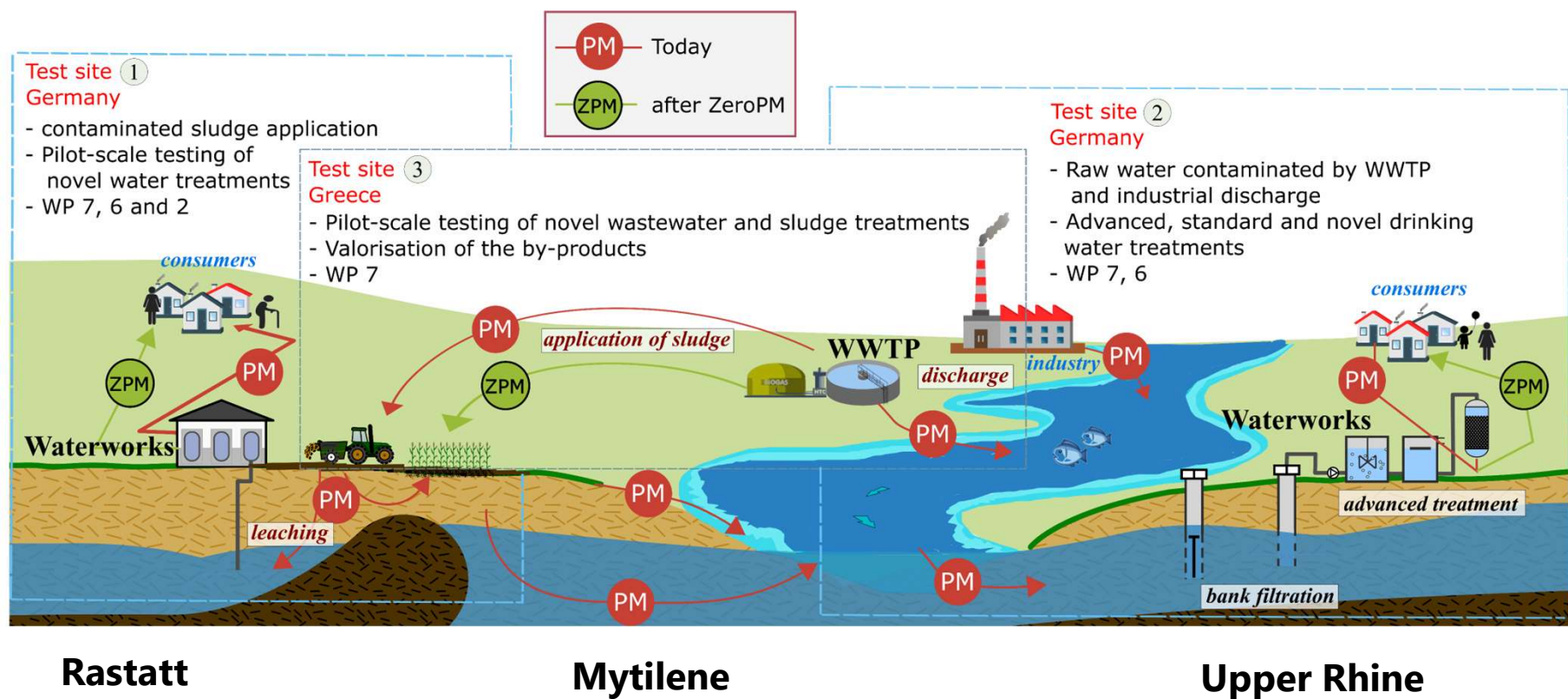
## **Sub objectives**

- ▼ Improved analytical methods for PM substances and their degradation products
- ▼ Innovative water and sludge remediation solutions
- ▼ Comparison of the efficiency, cost and ecological impacts





# ZeroPM's test sites



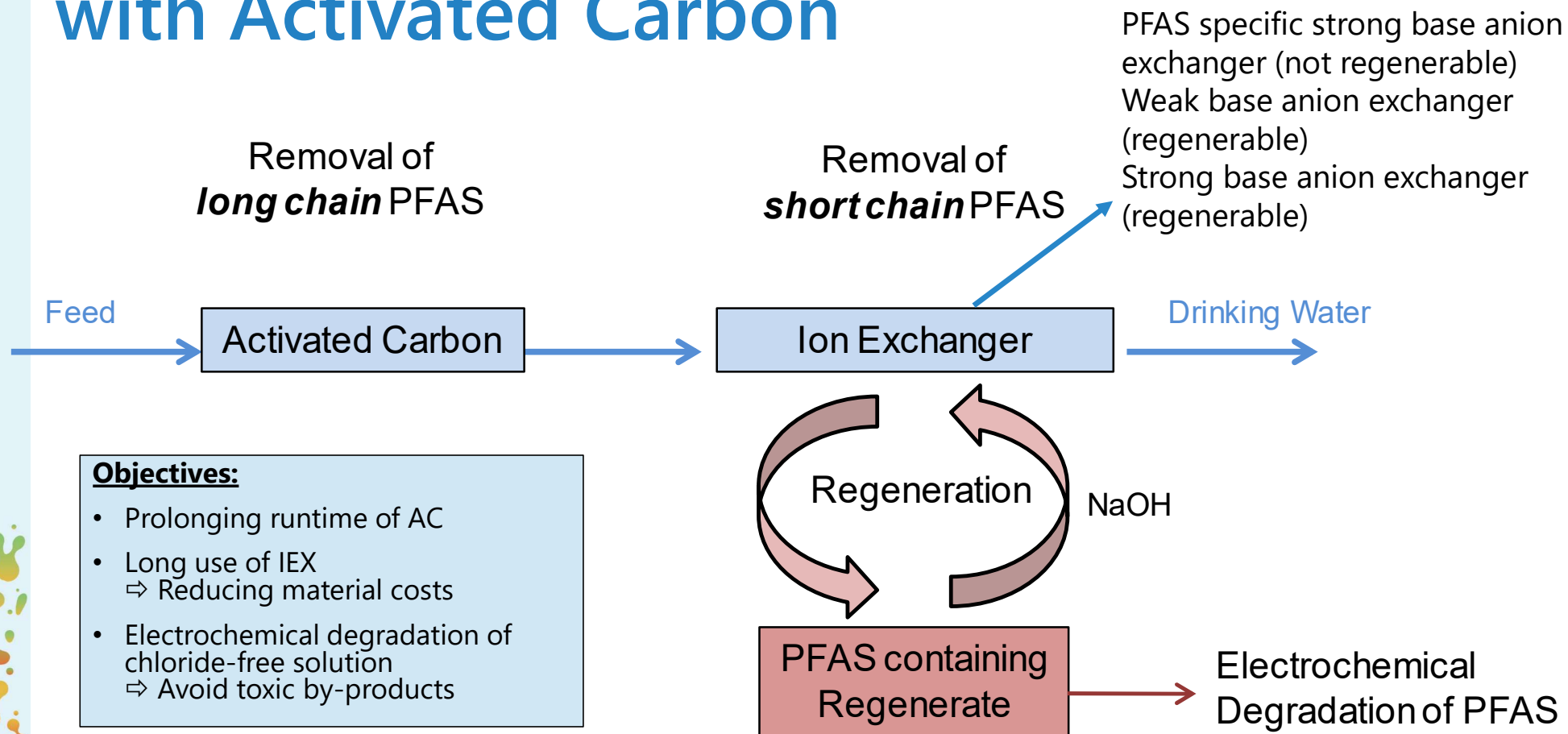


# Water treatment





# Rastatt: Ion Exchanger in combination with Activated Carbon





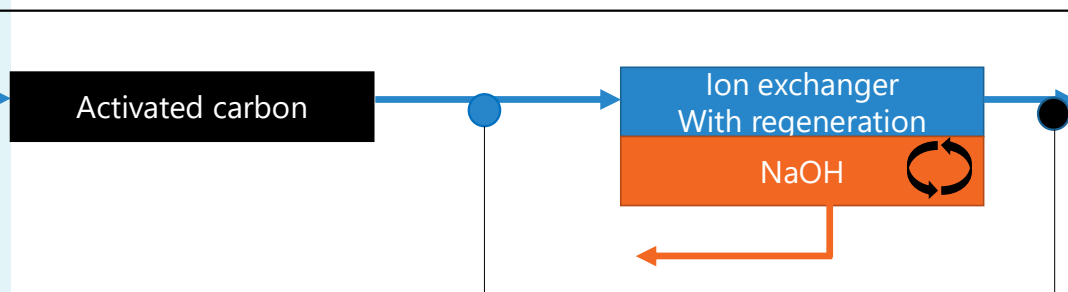
# Test site 1: Rastatt

- City in South Germany
- 50,000 inhabitants
- Contaminated sludge applied
- Waterworks Rauental
- 250 m<sup>3</sup>/h, 1.7 Mio. m<sup>3</sup>/a
- 4 activated carbon (AC) filters à 18 m<sup>3</sup> for PFAS removal
- AC Change: every 17.000 BV / 6-9 month
- Pilot test of AC and IEX

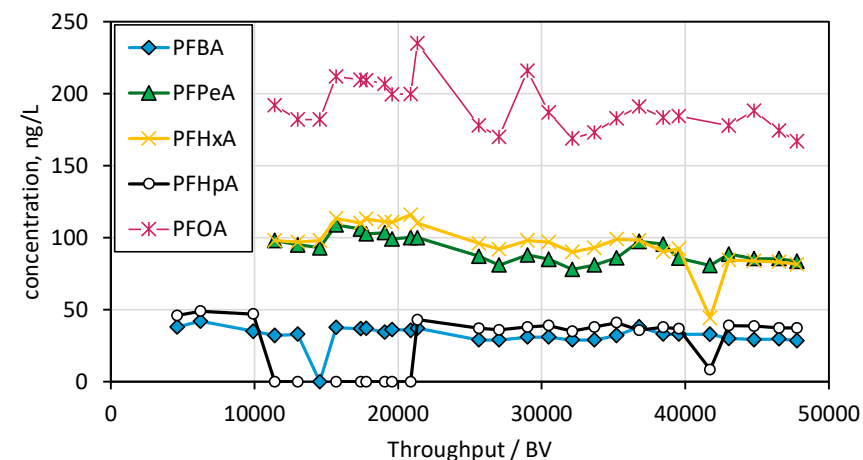




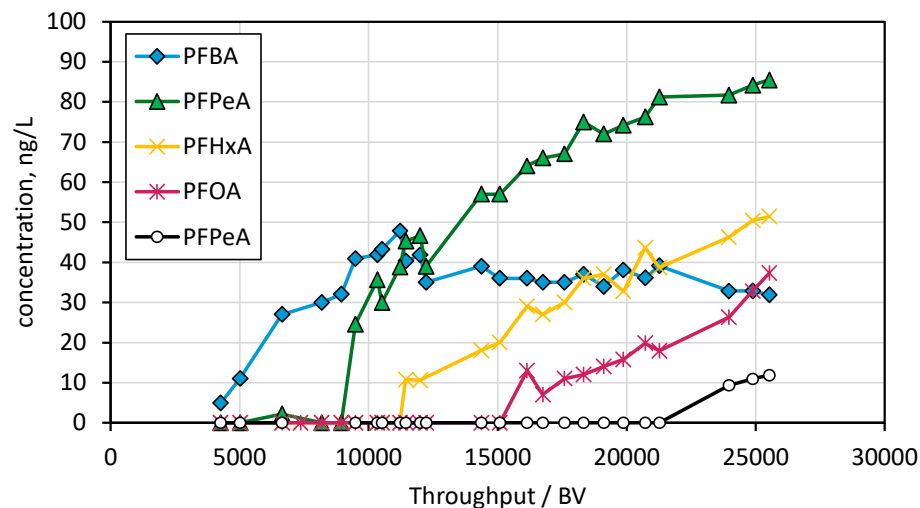
# Treatment performance



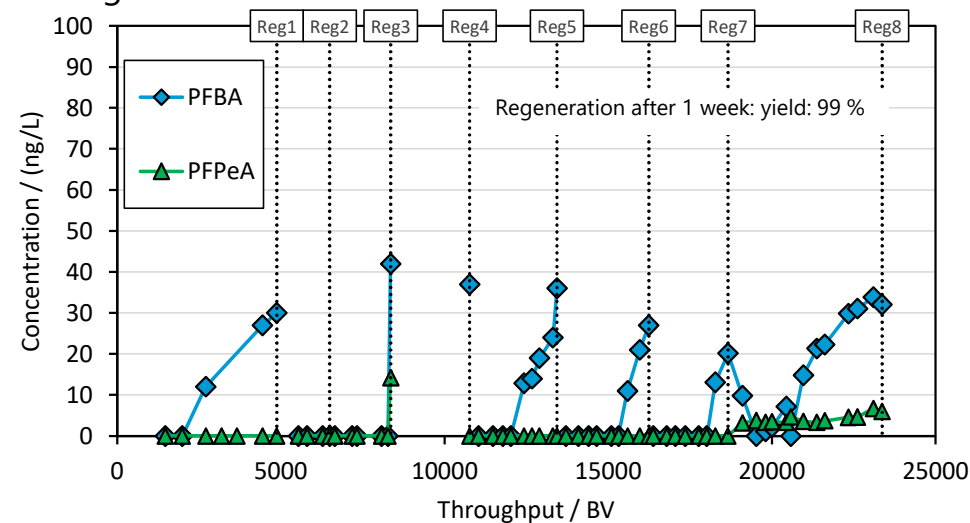
Raw water



After activated carbon



Drinking water:





# Treatment material costs

Activated carbon  
1.2 € per Liter AC

Ion Exchanger  
9 € per Liter IEX

| Substance of concern | Operating time, BV | Cent/m <sup>3</sup> | Operating time, BV | Cent/m <sup>3</sup> |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| PFBA                 | 6,000              | 20                  | 10,000             | 90                  |
| PFPeA                | 12,000             | 10                  | 35,000             | 26                  |
| PFHxA                | 25,000             | 5                   | ?                  | ?                   |

Operation time of 6,000 BV:

- Specific material costs: 20 Cent/m<sup>3</sup>
- 35 €/a for a 4 person household
- > 800,000 €/a for a water supplier (of 100,000 people)
- Specific remediation costs: 400,000 €/kg(PFAS)\*

\*c<sub>0</sub>=0,5 µg/L



# Sludge treatment

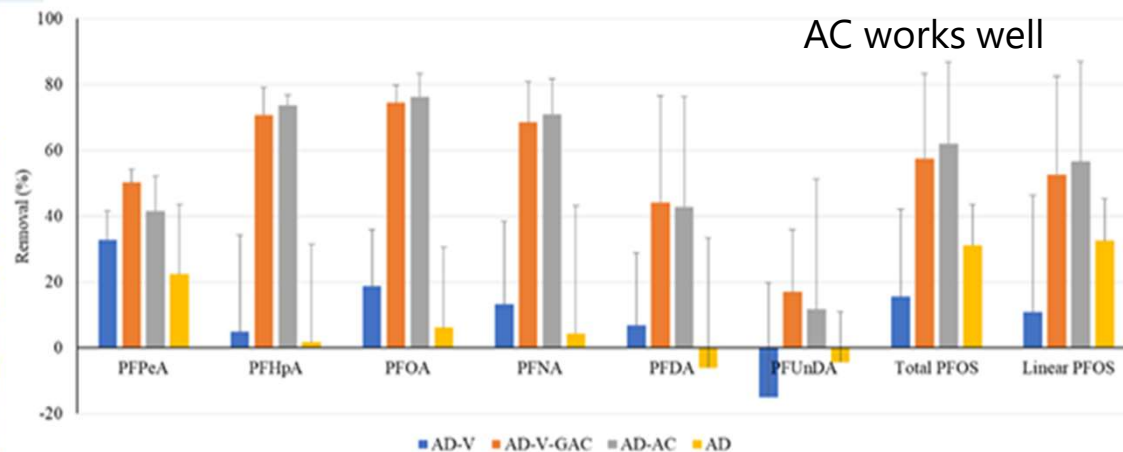
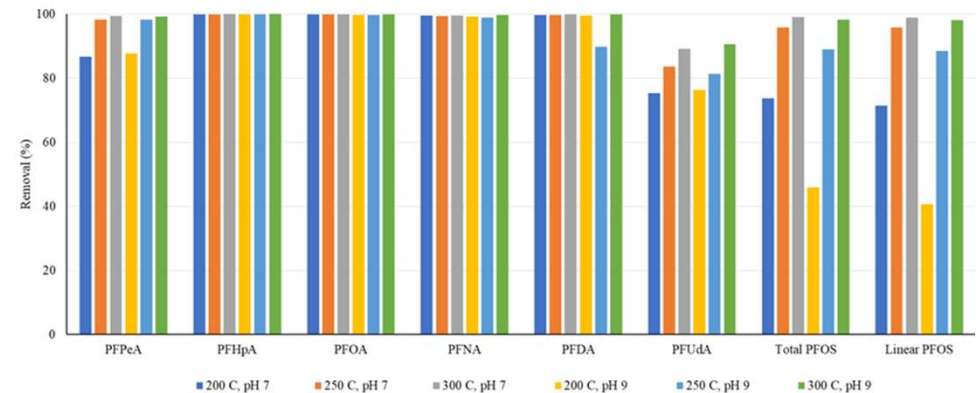




# Technology 1: Modified Anaerobic Digestion (AD)

## Technology 1: Modified Anaerobic Digestion (AD)

- Identifying the role of:
  - Sludge pretreatment (thermal, ultrasound)
  - Application of voltage (0.8 V, 2 V)
  - Addition of conductive materials (Granular Activated Carbon, graphite, magnetite, hydrochar)
  - Mesophilic (30-35 °C), Thermophilic (50-55 °C) conditions
  - PFAS and benzotriazoles (BTR)



## Technology 2: Hydrothermal Carbonization

- Increase of T => improved PFAS removal



# Dissemination and Communication



- Webinars
- Workshops
- Films and podcasts
- Factsheets and guidelines
- Summer schools
- Technology demonstrations

Website: <https://zeropm.eu/>

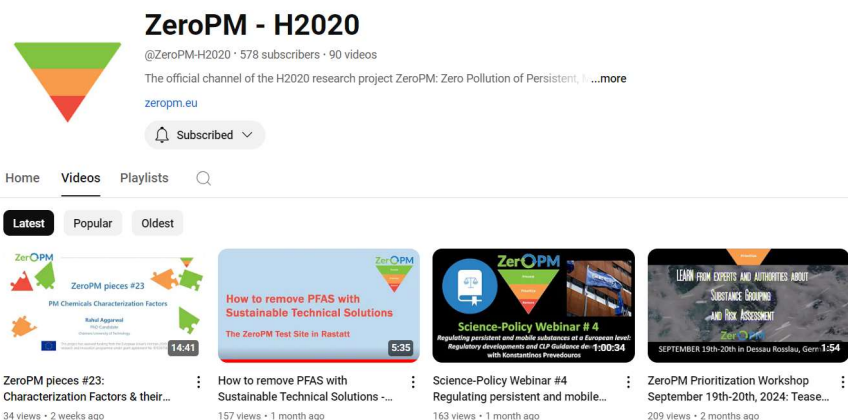
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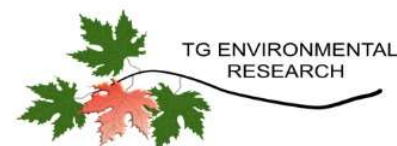
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