

# ADOX

A next generation adsorption-oxidation process for removal of organic micropollutants from municipal wastewater effluent

N. Fausta<sup>1\*</sup>, J. P. van der Hoek<sup>1,2</sup>, S. G. J. Heijman<sup>1</sup>, L. C. Rietveld<sup>1</sup>

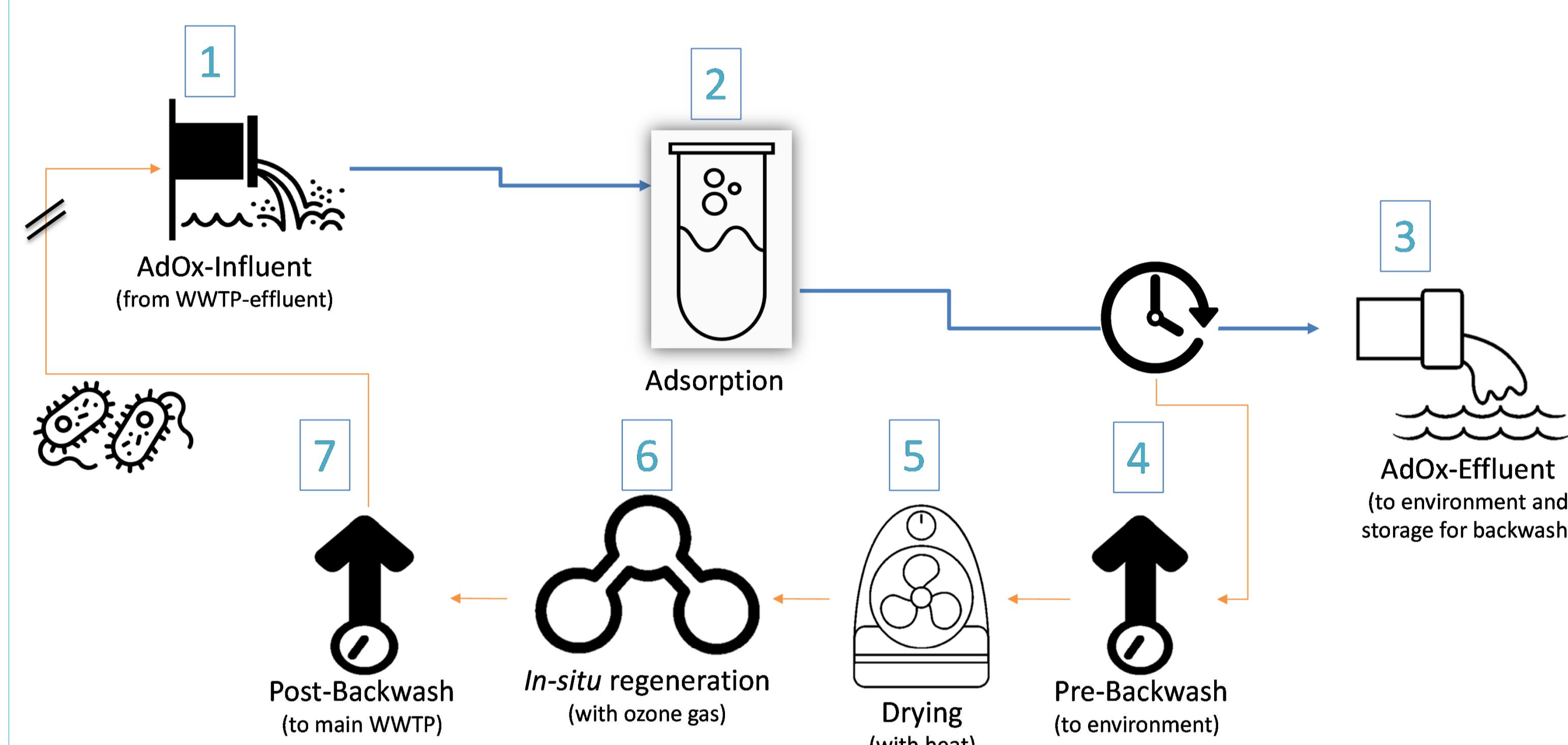
## BACKGROUND

Wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) are in search of sustainable and cost-efficient post-treatment technologies to sufficiently remove organic micropollutants (OMPs), such as traces of pharmaceuticals, personal care products and industrial chemicals.

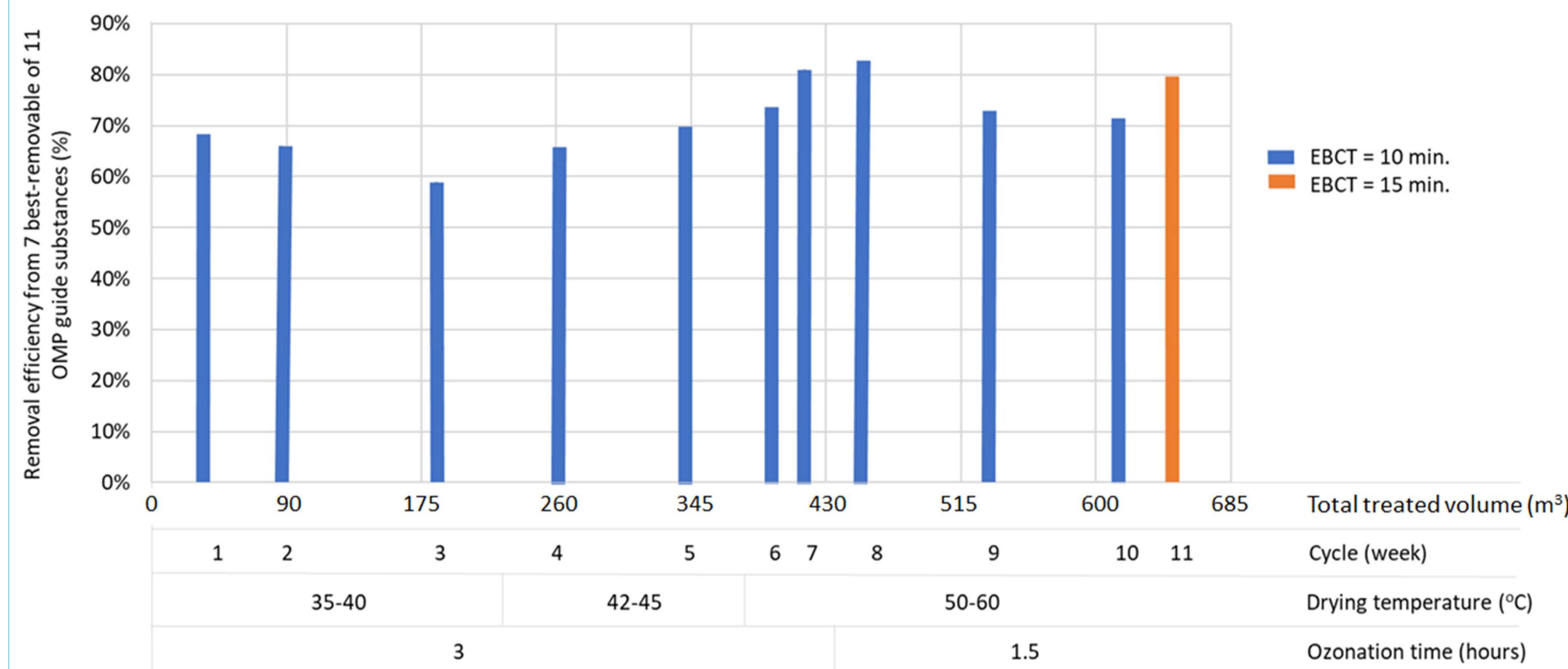
AdOx offers a solution by integrating adsorption using high-silica zeolite granules in downflow filtration with *in-situ* regeneration using ozone gas. No bromate is formed in the effluent. After 5 years of lab-scale research with convincing results, AdOx has now been scaled up to a pilot plant.

## PROCESS SCHEME

The adsorption-regeneration cycle is completed in a week, including 7 days of adsorption and less than 8 hours of regeneration.



## PERFORMANCE: REMOVAL, CO<sub>2</sub> FOOTPRINT, COST



	Unit	PACAS	Ozone + Sand Filtration	AdOx (EBCT 10 min.)	AdOx (EBCT 15 min.)
Costs	€/m³	0.05	0.17	0.13 – 0.21	0.15 – 0.27
Overall Removal Efficiency	%	70-75%	80-85%	67%	74%

Dutch guide substances

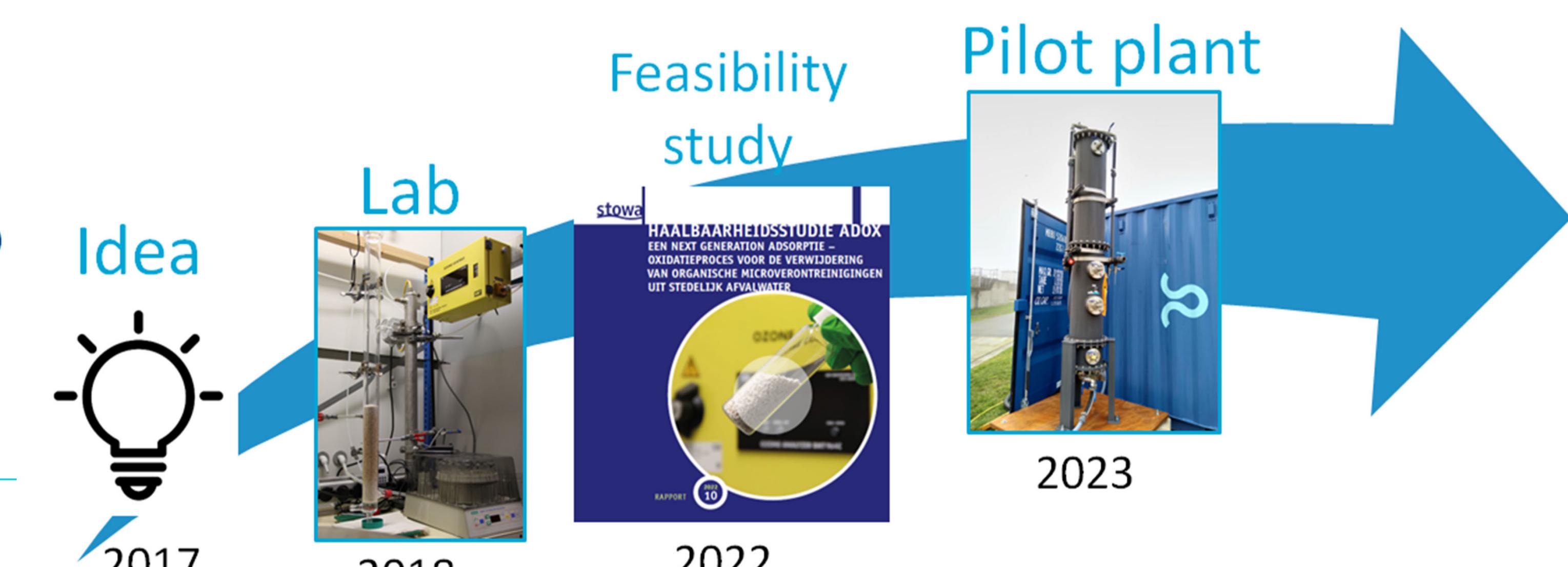
## PILOT PLANT SETUP & OPERATIONAL PERIOD

Location : AWZI Leiden-Noord  
*(Hoogheemraadschap van Rijnland)*  
 Commissioned : January 2023  
 Sampling period: March - June 2023  
 Flow rate : 0.5 m<sup>3</sup>/h  
 Reactor size :  
 bed depth = 1 m,  
 diameter = 0.35 m  
 column height = 3 m



## FROM LAB TO PILOT PLANT AND BEYOND

5-year journey to TRL-5.



Idea  
2017

Lab  
2018

Feasibility study  
2022

Pilot plant  
2023

