



## Gentle remediation of trace element contaminated land

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### CALL DETAILS:

**KBBE.2010.3.5-01: Biotechnology for the environment - Soil and water treatment and bioremediation**

**Call: FP7-KBBE-2010-4**

**Project duration:** 48 months

**Total budget:** 3,942,102.18 euros

**Instrument:** Collaborative project

**Project co-ordinator:** University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna – "BOKU"

### ABSTRACT:

Gentle remediation options (GRO) include various and in general plant-based approaches to remediate trace element contaminated soils. Although GRO comprise very innovative and efficient technologies, they are still not widely used as practical site solution. Greenland will solve the remaining problems and bring gentle remediation options into practical application. The major objectives are: (i) test the remediation efficiency and success in pilot field case studies; (ii) develop a toolkit to quantify the remediation progress and targets; (iii) test different technologies of biomass valorisation; (iv) develop a decision support tool; and finally (v) publish a best practice guide. Greenland has defined two groups of end users: a) companies that will offer gentle remediation options commercially (they are part of the project consortium); b) stakeholders that will decide for gentle remediation options (they are integrated as advisory board) and their main task will be to give feedback on the project progress and to disseminate the results.

### DR. MARKUS PUSCHENREITER EXPLAINS:

#### • *How did you get involved in FP 7?*

Most of the GREENLAND partners had been working together in a previous ERANET-SNOWMAN-funded project (SUMATECS). We wanted to continue our research efforts and found the FP7 call as a unique opportunity and great chance to overcome the previously identified research needs and to make gentle soil remediation technologies fit for purpose.

#### • *What are your expectations from the project?*

I expect that all the planned research work is carried out in consideration of the European dimension. The development of environmentally friendly soil remediation technologies should help to solve the European-wide problem of contaminated soils, but it should also contribute to the harmonization of European Environmental policies. Finally, I expect that GREENLAND will also strengthen the competitiveness of European environmental science and technologies. To achieve these expectations, scientists from universities and research centers will work together with stakeholders and SMEs.

#### • *What's the secret of your success?*

SMEs and stakeholders were integrated in our group as full partners and as advisory board members to address scientific, practical and policy oriented issues. This group has defined a set of research needs that would be necessary to bring these environmentally friendly methods to practical application.

#### • *Did you use the NCPs services during the proposal stage?*

Preparation of FP7 project proposals and negotiation of the grant agreement are challenging tasks. The NCP and the local research support office have provided a lot of significant help in various matters, e.g. suggestions to improve the proposal structure and the budget outline. During the negotiation, also the project officers at the European Commission have provided some helpful recommendations.

#### • *Any suggestions for other partners from your experience?*

I would recommend to fully address the call text in all parts of the proposal. Try to include all specific issues of the call text and explain in detail how you will answer the research question. Also, I highly recommend to regularly contact the NCP since they can provide a number of useful recommendations.