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Center for Microbial Ecology and Technology

Faculty of Bioscience Engineering \Rightarrow Department of Biotechnology \Rightarrow CMET

80 staff: 20 postdoctoral, 40 PhD, 10 support staff (5 supported through UGent)

Annually ~ 30 master students for thesis

5 full time professors, 3 guest professors

















And yet, this scale of operation is insufficient to truly address major challenges

Postdocs

PhD students





CO₂

Implementation of technology for resource recovery is slow

- Decentralized, project based
- Targets are undefined
- Business case is limited or unclear for problem owner



Planetary Boundaries

A safe operating space for humanity



- Beyond zone of uncertainty (high risk)
- In zone of uncertainty (increasing risk)
- Below boundary (safe)
- Boundary not yet quantified

Rockstrom Science 2015





Elected Best Feature Article 2017



CAPTURE - Research Principles



- CAPTURE wants to deliver <u>excellent</u> research and technology development through open collaboration between researchers, industry and other stakeholders
- Choices need to be made: CAPTURE focuses on programs together with partners:
 - These are not exclusive rather priority is given
 - Academic freedom is in no way curtailed
- Growth is certainly not the only or key driver



The CAPTURE approach







Level 3 + 4: Business Accelerator

Level 1+ 2: Technology Accelerator (Testing facilities, benches and chairs)

Level 0: Tech Hall: upscaling & demonstration

Tech Lane **Ghent**





AGENTSCHAP INNOVEREN & ONDERNEMEN























Flagship project: improved

















CAPTURE water

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- Urine treatment, focus on N recovery
- Production of feed and food as microbial protein
- Production of organic building blocks from dilute streams



Industrial affiliate program











MELiSSA



The CAPTURE approach



Effective cleantech acceleration environment





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Entrepreneurship: spin-offs

Est. 2017

C

STRATEGICWATER

Smart Systems, Effective Solutions

Strategic Water is a water and environmental sanitation engineering firm specialising in data management and strategic systems planning in the water and sanitation sector in emerging markets. Our mission is to bring hard data and machine learning to the water supply chain in order to streamline services across the globe. Est. 2017





AM-TEAM is a globally active company, focussing on advanced process modelling. The unique com- bination of process understanding and advanced modelling frameworks brings models very close to reality, allowing drastic process improvement and accelerated scale-up in the water, biotech and pharma fields.



The CAPTURE approach



Training of multidisciplinary (future) professionals

- Super-W European Joint Doctorate Programme -15 PhD Students
 - -Sustainable Resource Recovery from Water
- EIT Raw Materials
 -New International MSc SINREM
- Centre for Environmental Science & Technology
- Multiple International partners GUGC?
- Lifelong Learning







CAPTURE - summary

- Collaborative center based on excellent science, translation
- Good model for interaction with MELiSSA to couple terrestrial applications
 - Research
 - Education
 - Commercialisation



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