

Date: 19/04/2018

## FAST TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE No. 2017000012

### Assistance technique pour l'élaboration d'une norme pour la valorisation agricole du digestat

The Advisory Board of the CTCN during its 11th meeting endorsed the principle to support the countries on their technical needs through a Fast-Technical Assistance Process so as to increase the efficiency of the CTCN's technical assistance (TA). The aforementioned request for TA is being responded following these principles.

The request for technical assistance submitted has several environmental benefits in line with the SDGs and circular economy. Development of biosolids/digestate standards for use in agricultural farm will not have a direct climate impact but use of biosolids use will lead to widescale adoption of the anaerobic digestion technology.

In the past there has been some work on the use of digestate (biosolids) or reclaimed water in agriculture by FAO, WHO, US EPA etc. Each country has different set of standards depending on the discharge standards of treated effluents on land, water body, sea or rivers etc. The quality of the digestate is largely dependent on the effluent discharge standards.

On the basis of consultative discussion within the CTCN peer group we have been able to compile a collection of documents which would guide your colleagues and the TA proponents in further understanding the implications of the use of biosolids in agricultural practices and thereby develop guidelines on the basis of national consultative process. The list of documents is as tabulated below. The same are also attached as Annexures. There are couple of references (links provided) which can be downloaded after registration.

Annex No	Name of Document	Publisher
1	Agriculture and water quality interactions: a global overview	NRL and FAO
2	A review of municipal solid waste environmental standards with a focus on incinerator residues	Gulf Organisation for Research and Development International Journal of Sustainable Built Environment
3	Environmental, economic and social impacts of the use of sewage sludge on land - Final Report	Prepared by Milieu Ltd, WRc and RPA for the European Commission, DG Environment
4	Profile of the Agricultural Livestock Production Industry	US EPA

5	The wealth of waste -The economics of wastewater use in agriculture	FAO
6	Wastewater Use in Irrigated Agriculture- Confronting the Livelihood and Environmental Realities	International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
7	WHO GUIDELINES FOR THE SAFE USE OF WASTEWATER, EXCRETA AND GREYWATER  Volume 1: Policy and Regulatory Aspects  Volume 2: Waste water Use in Agriculture	WHO
8	<u>Use of Reclaimed Water and Sludge in Food Crop Production</u>  <a href="https://www.nap.edu/download/5175#">https://www.nap.edu/download/5175#</a>	NATIONAL ACADEMY PRESS  Washington, D.C.
9	<u>Water quality for agriculture</u>  <a href="http://www.fao.org/docrep/003/t0234e/t0234e01.htm">http://www.fao.org/docrep/003/t0234e/t0234e01.htm</a>	FAO

We hope that the information provided in the documents would provide you with sufficient information to take forward the future work on this subject matter through a national consultative process.



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