PADRE Meeting 11 June 2010



European Technology Platform – Sustainable Mineral Resources

Mineral Industry needs an initiative of research on water & energy integrated management:

Eco-efficient Management of Water in the Mineral Industry "ECOWAMI"

Initiators:

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LESS WATER & ENERGY USES AND LOSSES = SMALLER FOOT PRINT = SMALLER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT = MORE SUSTAINABLE



Roots

Mineral exploitation consumes water & energy in different ways at all stages:

- Exploration and resource estimation
- Mining & mineral processing (+ metal processing)
- After the mine closure

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Facts

Water consumption

- Aggregates in Europe: 1.3 to 15 Billion m³ water per year
- Metal mining: 1.21 m³ per tonne of saleable product

Energy consumption

- Metal and mineral industry = 286,000 GWh = ca 10% total energy consumed in Europe
- On a time scale, the impact is beyond these figures
- Minerals exploitation will grow to fulfil demand
- Governance on environmental issues in Europe and outside is on a positive trend for a reduction of the impacts



Concept of the initiative



Aims and scope of "Eco-Efficient Management of Water in the Mineral Industry" ECOWAMI





ECOWAMI Work Programme Pillars



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Preparation update

- Final call to be opened in July
- First short proposal to be applied at the end of October
- Second full detailed application in February
- Integrated collaborative project 3 to 5 years long
- Budget about 20 M€
- 25 partners max
- About 75% potential partners already committed to contribute to the proposal
- Jointly supported by the SMR ETP and the Water Supply and Sanitation Technology Platform (collaborative agreement to be finalized)

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