



## SAYING GOODBYE

Dear researchers and other interested parties,

As all good things come to an end, so does the SEWPROF project. At least, that is the case for the official part of the project, because I know many of the ESRs and ERs will continue to work on wastewater-based epidemiology in one form or another. However, the SEWPROF contracts will all end in the coming months, with most of them finishing in February. Thus, this will be the very last SEWPROF newsletter.

Over the past 2 years, it has been a pleasure for me to make this newsletter. Even more so since for me, as the last person to be recruited for the project, it was a chance to get more closely involved and get to know all the persons working in the network when it seemed that everyone was already familiar with each other and the work. It has been a speedcourse in some very interesting procedures and methods, and I dare say that although I only know the smallest beginnings of WBE, I know that the field has grown enormously over the past years and I hope it will be a substantial addition to epidemiology research. I hope that in the future, epidemiologists will continue to work together with all the brilliant chemistry and engineering brains that were part of the project, so that in the end, the public will benefit as much as science already has from the results of SEWPROF. Of this, I have no doubts. Since this is the last newsletter and most ESRs and ERs are finishing up, there were few things to report. Therefore, I have prepared a collage of experiences, photo's and fun that has happened over the past 2 years. Please enjoy this final newsletter, and I hope to come accross you as leading scientists in your various fields in the future!

*Partir, c'est mourir un peu - Edmont Haraucourt (1857-1941)*

Janelle van Wel

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ESRs/ERs.....	2
Supervisors.....	8
Project pictures.....	10
Training courses.....	12

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

The SEWPROF MC ITN project, 'A new paradigm in drug use and human health risk assessment: Sewage profiling at the community level' is funded by the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement [317205].

# Words from the ESRs/ERs



"SEWPROF is a really exciting project, and it brought me valuable visions, skills and friendships." - Zhugen Yang



"This has been an extraordinary opportunity to share experience with different research groups across Europe and learn best-practices in chromatography and environmental chemistry!" - Erika Castrignanò



"Being part of SEWPROF has expanded my horizon as I could have never imagined. It has allowed me to start my career surrounded by the best researchers in the field, who have shown me the endless possibilities of science. And I will always be thankful for that!" - Ana Causanilles Llanes

“I have learned a lot during the project. If I look back at my first year, I can see how much I improved during this project. I feel more confident with myself not only regarding the knowledge gained during the past three years, but also from a personal point of view. This project has given us the possibility to travel in Europe meeting excellent researchers in different fields from all over the world and has given us the freedom and possibility to collaborate with them. Through the secondments we had the possibility to collaborate with other ESRs and ERs on several projects and share our knowledge. The greatest thing of this network is that these collaborations and great friendships are not going to end when our contract ends, but they will become the basis of future great researches in this field even though some of us may move from the academia.” - Stefania Salvatore



“I conquered the sewer and learned a lot.” - Ann-Kathrin McCall



“It was an enriching experience, I enjoyed every moment and it has been a pleasure working with the SEWPROF fellows who today are also my friends.” - Juliet Kinuya

# Words from the ESRs/ERs



"Why I liked SEWPROF? The people, the collaborations, the research, the meetings,... It was all really great!" - Bram Miserez

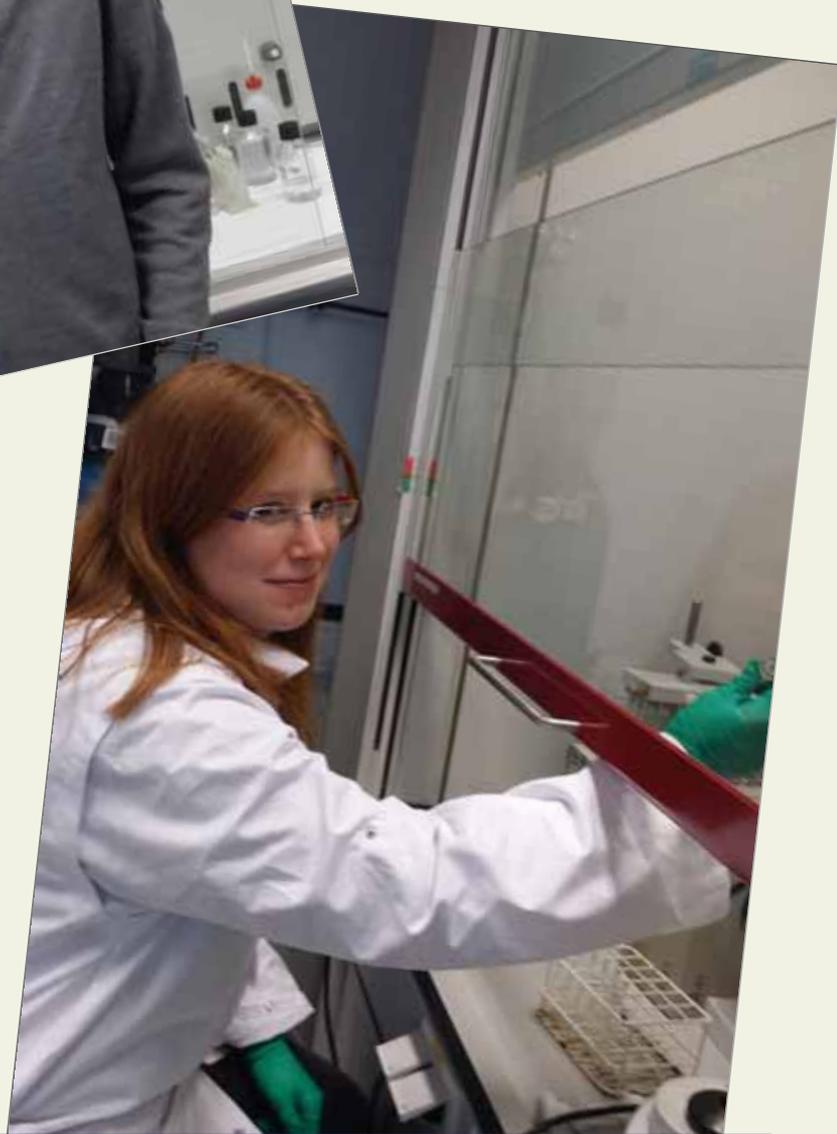


"It has been interesting living different places, getting to know people throughout Europe, and experiencing the different social and work cultures. Had it not been for SEWPROF, I might never have experienced live Belgian black metal in Antwerp, Frank Znort Quartet in Oslo, Dutch Schlager music in Utrecht, Swiss magician bartenders in gay bars in Ascona, and unhealthy amounts of Jamón curado and vino tinto in Castellón." - Marie Mardal



"SEWPROF allowed me to improve my research skills and to work with other experts on the field. I specially enjoyed the meetings because they were a great opportunity to learn more and to exchange ideas with all the members." - Emma Gracia Lor

"The SEWPROF network gave me the opportunity to visit different laboratories across Europe and exchange knowledge, ideas with other experts in the field." - Nikolaos Rousis



"Being part of SEWPROF allowed me to visit awesome countries I otherwise probably would not have visited (Norway, Switzerland, Malta) and has given me the chance to expand my horizon with regard to the endless possibilities of science! I am very thankful for the opportunities I got while working on my project for professional and personal development, and hope to keep in contact with all the friendly people I met." - Janelle van Wel

# Words from the ESRs/ERs



All the best for Superb Excellent Wonderful Promising Remarkable Outstanding Fellows (aka SEWPROF)! - Yeon-suk Ryu

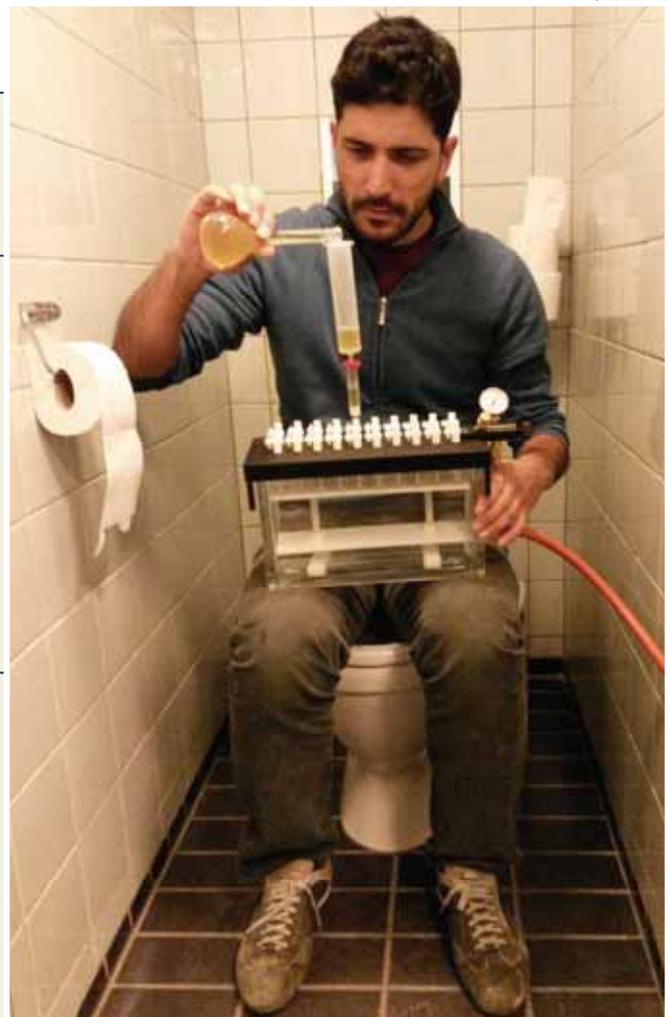


"I really feel privileged to be involved in this project - researching in multiple high-quality, world-class laboratories, working with some great people! It really has been a great three years and I hope that our collaborations can continue into the future." - Richard Bade



“These last three year have been amazing. I have enjoyed a lot working with all my ESR colleagues and learnt as much as I could from all the supervisors and the researchers invited to participate in our TC's and different activities. Time is running out for me. Since I was the first ESR initiating the project unfortunately I am also the first finishing. This is my last week as a SEWPROF ESR, so now is time to thank the project for all the support and all my colleagues for such an amazing time together. Now is time to submit the final papers, prepare my thesis and do my best to obtain my PhD as quick as possible! I hope you have a productive and successful last months as ESRs and hopefully I will see you soon! ;) - Pepo

“One of the fascinating facts about the project for me is that it is simply fun. Not because it made me famous in our department as the “drug dude,” but because the topic quickly catches everyone’s attention and people start showing an interest when I tell them about a European project focusing on illicit drugs in sewage. And, that’s what happened to me as well when I first heard about the project. At the time I didn’t think that networking within the project would make it even more exciting. It wasn’t just about sharing science, but also making friends, having fun and sharing lots of cultural experiences.” - Pedram Ramin



# Words from the supervisors



“SEWPROF proved to be a tremendous success. I'm truly proud to be part of it. We've managed to do so much and have fun too! Thank you all for your commitment, friendship and excellent companionship. I would like to wish you all continued success for the years to come!” - Barbara Kasprzyk-Hordern, University of Bath



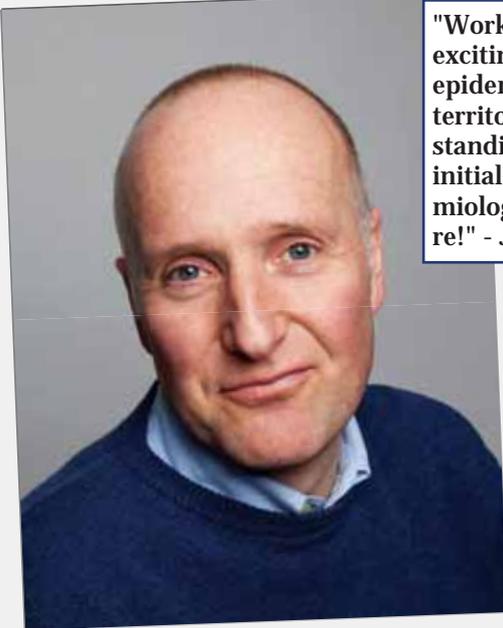
“Beyond the project work itself, I thoroughly enjoyed time spent at the biannual meetings. To me, the diverse mix of cultures and backgrounds brought together by SEWPROF created a dynamic and stimulating environment at these meetings. As for the ESRs and ERs, their youthful energy and zest for knowledge

was great fun to experience. We at TICTAC wish them well in their future endeavours and hope to hear from them as they progress in their further studies and careers. Last but not least, a thank you to Barbara for bringing SEWPROF about.” - Trevor Shine, TICTAC Communications Ltd., St. George's University of London



“SEWPROF has been a delightful project – a collaboration of great people, good relevant science and EU funding. Our modest contribution has been most rewarding at both the professional and personal levels. I am sure we will continue to collaborate with partners and students long after the project ends.” - John Ramsey, TICTAC Communications Ltd., St. George's University of London.

“Working with the SEWPROF project has been exciting and challenging. Wastewater-based epidemiology is a novel field with uncharted territory. Being part of the increasing understanding and development of the field from initial technical enthusiasm to proper epidemiological understanding has been a pleasure!” - Jørgen Bramness, University of Oslo





“Until now, SEWPROF was a fantastic experience for me and I guess also for all researchers involved. I wish everyone a lot of passion to continue with this promising research which is still in evolution. Thanks also to Janelle for all those interesting SEWPROF newsletters.” - Guido Van Hal, University of Antwerp



“I personally like the open atmosphere and cooperative spirit within the SEWPROF project, that stimulates us all!” - Pim de Voogt, KWR, Netherlands



“Dear SEWPROFERS

SEWPROF was the best EU project I ever contributed to and you were the most dedicated and simpatico group of E(S)Rs that I ever worked with. Colleagues and supervisors who altogether accumulated a much wider basis of experience than myself told me: “Christoph, believe me, it cannot get much better than SEWPROF”. I thank you heartily for making my first(!) EU project such a pleasant and successful experience ;-)

It was a good, steep learning curve. If you think it was hard sometimes, you are right. Believe me, you are now well prepared for future endeavors – but do not cherish the illusion it will become easier simply because you will be the supervisor of a (good) E(S)R.

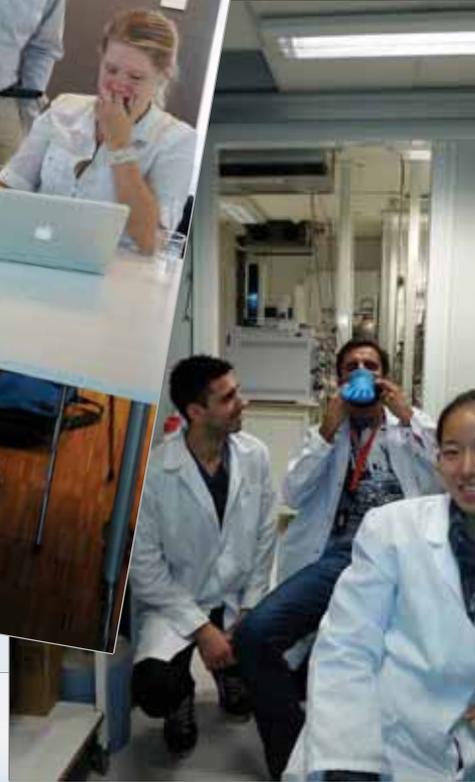
I sincerely hope you can profit from the knowledge and the great network that you built up at the onset of your academic career.

Wishing you all the best and hoping that our paths cross again sometime, somewhere.”  
- Christoph Ort, EAWAG



“The sewage treatment plant of Utrecht always has a lot of surprises. The best resource you can have close by. Now let’s start with performing resource recovery for the next XTC tablet dump!” - Erik Emke, KWR

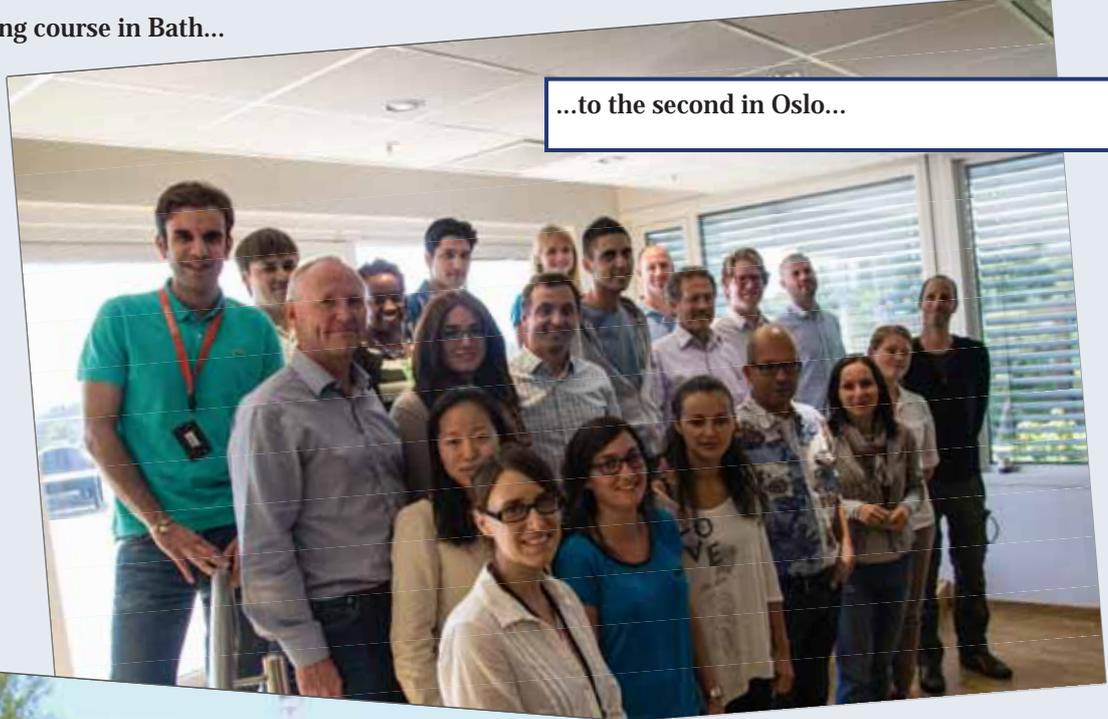




# Training courses



From the first training course in Bath...



...to the second in Oslo...



...and the third at the KWR in Utrecht...

... on to the fourth TC at the Mario Negri institute in Milan...



... to end at the final training course—Universidad Jaime I, Castellón

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### Future events

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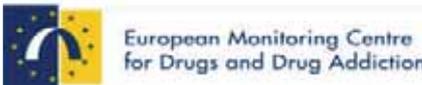
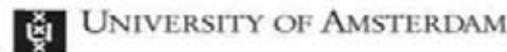
### Past events

- 1st SEWPROF Training Course: Human Health and the Environment - April 2013, University of Bath, Bath, United Kingdom
- 2nd SEWPROF Training Course: Sampling, sample handling, storage and sample preparation - September 2013, Norwegian Institute for Water Research, Norway
- 3rd SEWPROF Training Course: Analytical techniques for biomarkers analysis - March 2014, KWR Watercycle Research Institute, The Netherlands
- 4th SEWPROF Training Course / 1<sup>st</sup> SCORE COST Training School: Assessing human health and lifestyle by sewage epidemiology - September 2014, Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research, Italy
- 1st SCORE/COST Working Group - October 2014, organized by Water Services Cooperation, Malta
- 5th SEWPROF training course / 2nd SCORE COST training school: Method validation and quality control - April 2015, University Jaume I, Castellón, Spain



2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on "Wastewater-based drug epidemiology"  
Congressi Stefano Franscini, Monte Verità, Ascona, Switzerland  
11-15 October, 2015

### SPECIAL THANKS TO



UiO : University of Oslo

