

Cooperation between the European Joint Programme EURAD and the EC Project PREDIS on the subject of Waste Acceptance Criteria

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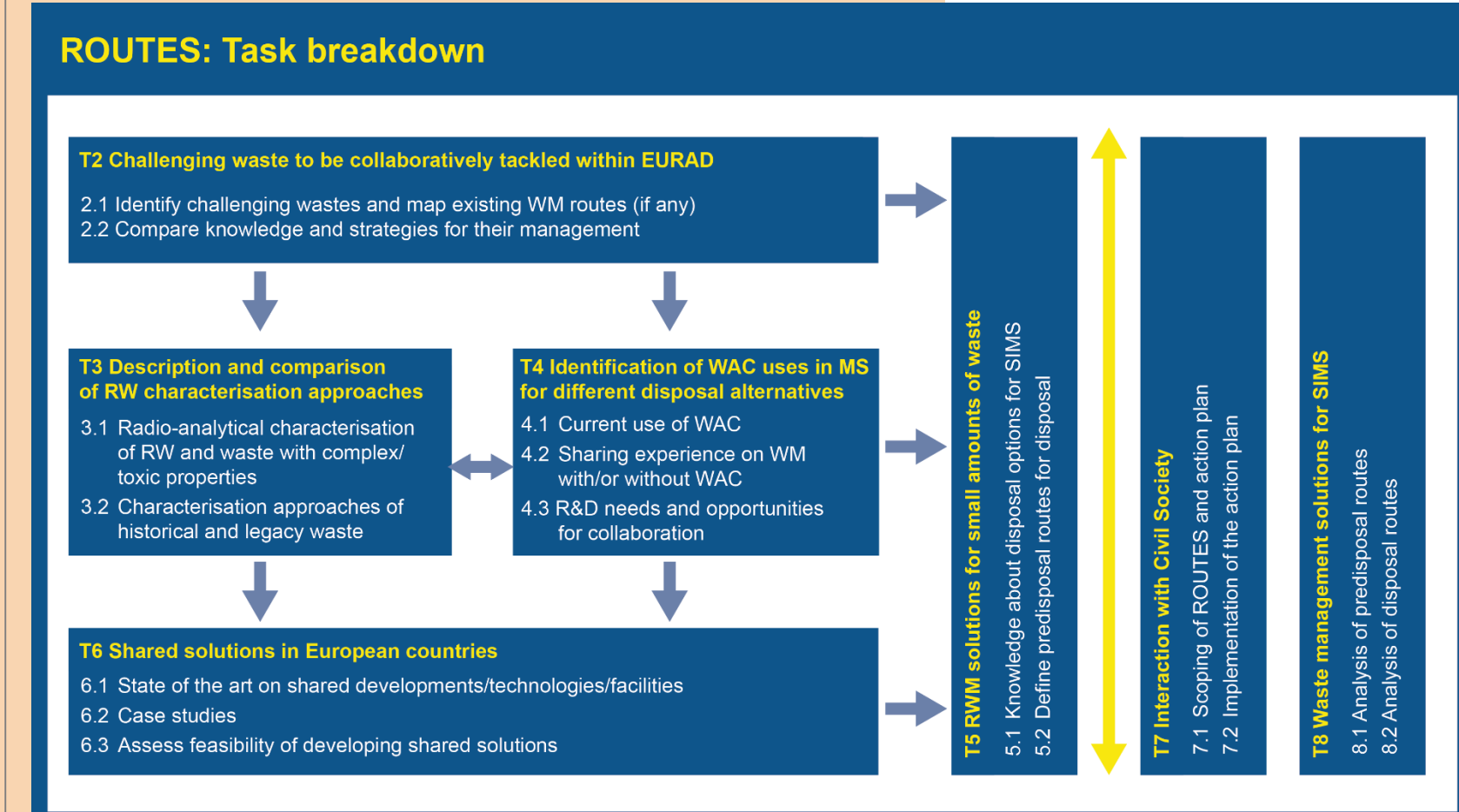


Overview of EURAD ROUTES and PREDIS

European Joint Programme on Radioactive Waste Management (EURAD)

5 year initiative (2019-2024) aiming to coordinate activities on agreed priorities of common interest between >100 European Waste Management Organisations (WMOs), Technical Support Organisations (TSOs) and Research Entities (REs)

Overall budget of nearly €60M



ROUTES is one of two strategic study work packages within EURAD

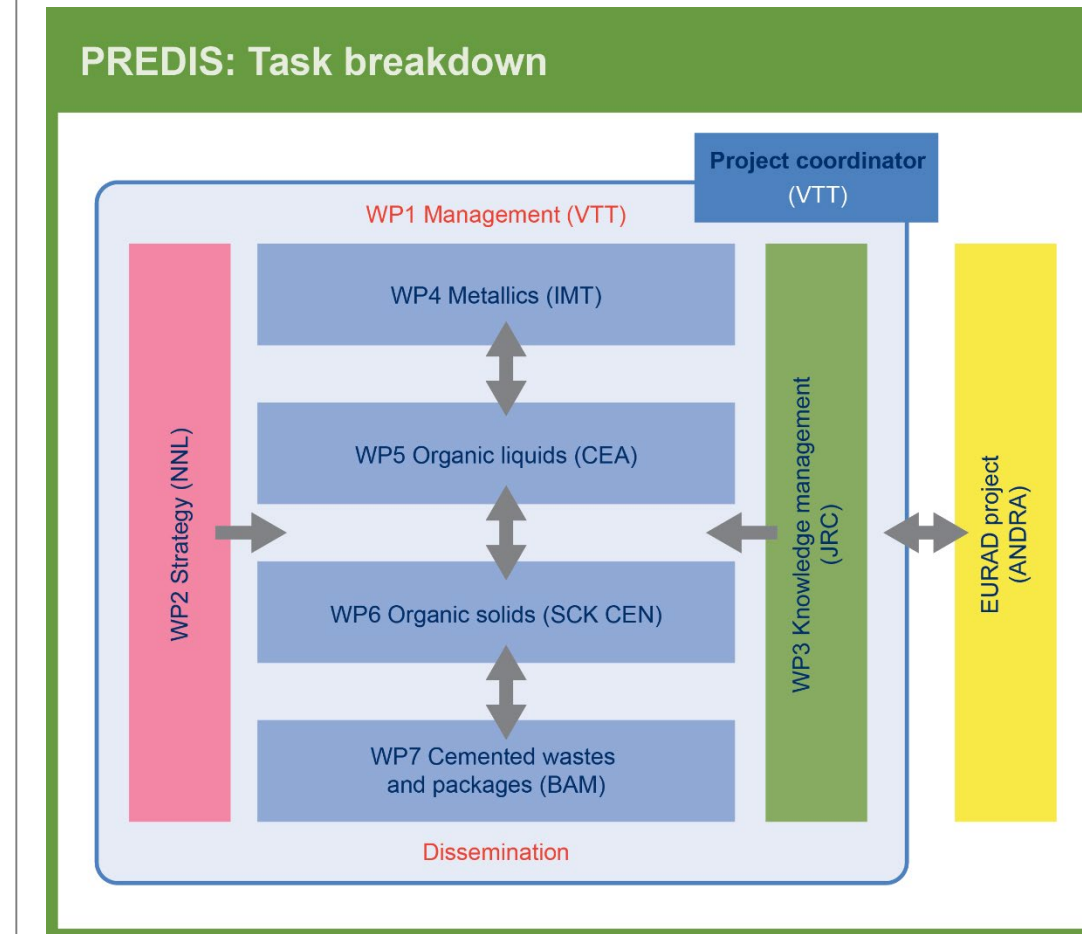
ROUTES objectives:

- Share experiences and knowledge on waste management routes
- Identify safety relevant issues and their R&D needs
- Describe and compare waste management approaches and identify opportunities for collaboration between Member States

PREDIS

4 year project (2020-2024) involving 47 partners from 18 Member States

Overall budget of nearly €24M

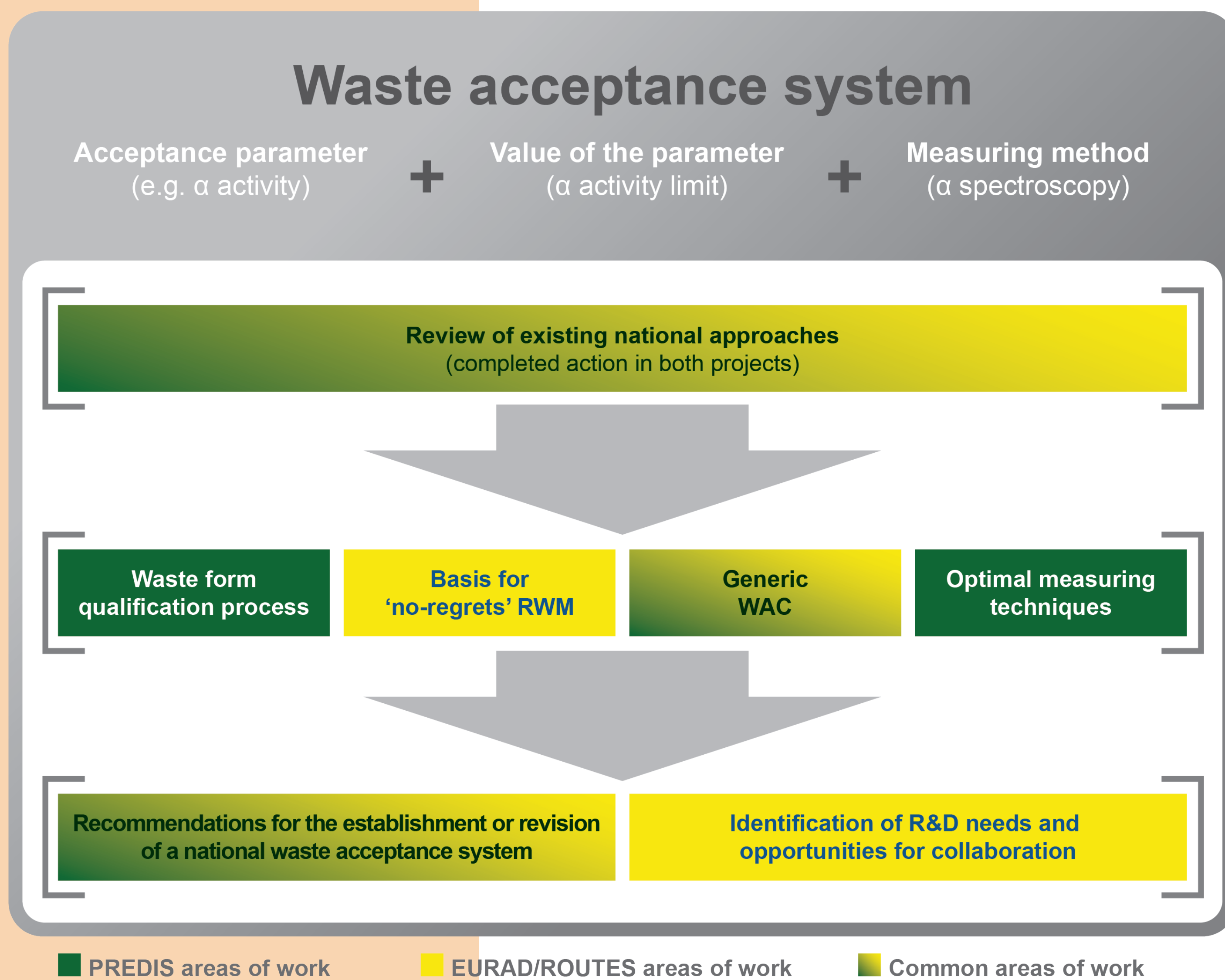


PREDIS objectives:

- Develop solutions for future treatment and conditioning of waste for which no industrially mature or inadequate solutions are currently available, improving safety during subsequent waste management steps
- Improve existing solutions with safer, cheaper or more effective alternative processes where they bring measurable benefits to several Member States
- Analyse criteria, parameters and specifications for materials and packages with associated Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC) for pre-disposal and disposal activities, supporting homogenisation of waste management processes across Europe

Task 4 of ROUTES (2019-2023), is devoted to WAC and their impact on the definition of full lifecycle waste management approaches
The objective of PREDIS Task 2.3 is to establish guidance on selected WAC issues

Collective scope and approach to delivery of WAC-related outputs



Review of existing national approaches

Detailed and up-to-date information that was not previously publicly available, on the following topics:

- Status and nature of WAC
- Use of generic WAC
- Approaches to develop and update WAC
- Detailed requirements set out in WAC
- WAC-related responsibilities of different parties
- Approaches to determine compliance with WAC
- Approaches to respond to non-compliances

Available here:
<https://www.ejp-eurad.eu/publications/eurad-milestone-88-current-use-waste-acceptance-criteria-european-union-members-states>

Collates information on waste acceptance systems worldwide and assesses their relevance for subsequent PREDIS WAC-related activities.

Emphasis is therefore on:

- Methods used to check WAC
- Waste form qualification processes
- Use of generic WAC

Available here:
https://predis-h2020.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/PREDIS_D2.4-Waste-acceptance-system_FINAL_31.8.2021.pdf

Basis for 'no-regrets' RWM

ROUTES aims to share experience (i.e. proven practices) on WAC use in order to inform development of WAC in countries without WAC and/or disposal facilities. This has been done by examining a series of waste management case studies and discussing various cross cutting topics (generic WAC; involvement of stakeholders in the development and application of WAC; managing the potential for non-compliances to arise as WAC are iterated)

Internal report to be incorporated in future (published) ROUTES deliverable

Incorporates a series of observations and recommendations aimed at supporting the progression of waste management activities when uncertainties remain regarding future stages in the waste lifecycle

Planned guides

Waste form qualification process

Generic WAC

Optimal measuring techniques

Recommendations for the establishment or revision of a national waste acceptance system

Waste form qualification – a qualification process provides proof that a selected waste form is compatible with its designated disposal system

Formulating generic WAC to be applied in the absence of a disposal facility

Optimal measuring techniques, focusing on the selection of technically and financially viable waste form characterisation methods

Identification of R&D needs and opportunities for collaboration

Aiming to identify WAC-related R&D needs that still persist (across several Member States) and opportunities for collaboration to address such needs.

Workshop held in May 2022

Associated internal report to be incorporated in future (published) ROUTES deliverable. Completion expected in late 2022

Cooperation between ROUTES and PREDIS on WAC

Part of wider cooperation between EURAD and PREDIS to maximise value of project outputs

Future collaboration opportunities

Consistency in approach

Common understanding

Sharing of experience

Transferable solutions

Build networks

Complementary outputs / minimise duplication

Outstanding R&D needs

What aspects of WAC do you consider to be most challenging?

Cooperation through joint WAC-related initiatives and increased participation:

2 × joint PREDIS – ROUTES – ERDO public webinars on WAC – see <https://predis-h2020.eu/events/>:

- 1) Information and resources
- 2) Needs, challenges and opportunities

PREDIS participation in ROUTES Task 4 workshops (also representatives from ERDO and IAEA).

Live polling of webinar participants, e.g.:

Where would shared solutions and information provide the most benefit regarding WAC?