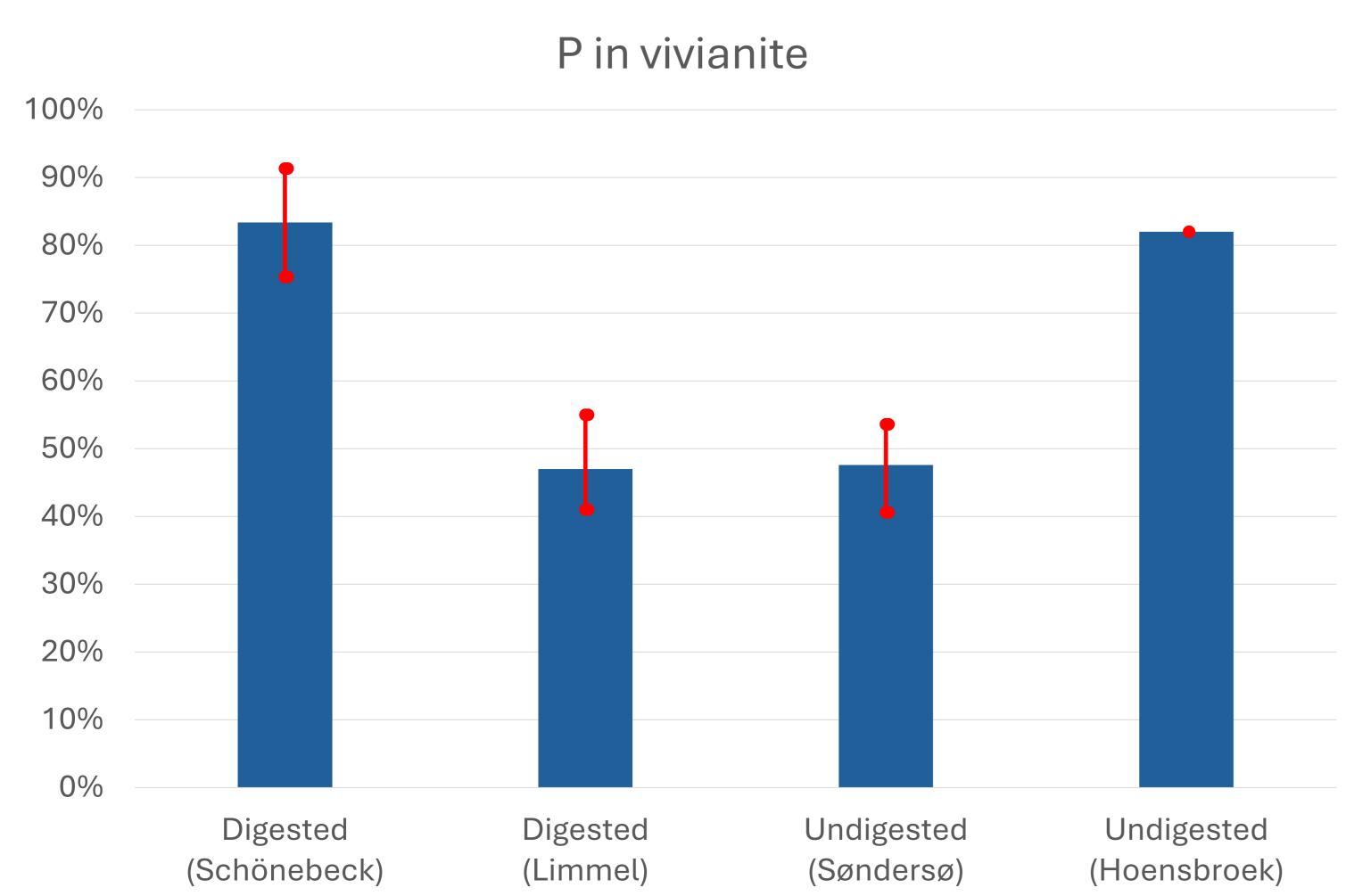
# ViviMag® | P-recovery from sludge



Recovering **phosphorus** at WWTPs is essential for sustainability and resource efficiency. With **upcoming EU regulations**, WWTPs will be required to meet -still to be defined- **recovery targets**. Besides, more stringent effluent requirements will result in an increase of P in the sludge. Traditional methods like incineration of sludge or land application are not future-proof, either removing P from the food chain or lacking control over P-content. There is a novel solution to **meet recovery targets** by recovering P from sludge as a mineral called **vivianite**.

### Phos4EU: Advancing Phosphorus Recovery

- Over a decade of innovation in phosphorus recovery technology
- Initially developed by Wetsus and TU Delft and advanced by Kemira Oyj
- Industrial implementation driven by key partners:
  - Waterschap Brabantse Delta
  - Kemira Oyj
  - Waterschap Limburg
  - VandCenter Syd
  - Haskoning
  - Aquaminerals
  - Acciona
  - STOWA
- Demonstration through the Phos4EU project





**Achievements** 

The ViviMag<sup>®</sup> pilot demonstrated effective phosphorus recovery in four European WWTPs, with influent P-recovery rates up to 50% and aiming for 80% vivianite recovery.

These results confirm ViviMag® as a great opportunity to meet future EU requirements on P-recovery in combination with excellent effluent standards.

### Vivianite valorisation

Multiple ways to increase the valorisation of vivianite are being explored with vivianite as fertiliser being the reference option.

A full-scale demo at WWTP Nieuwveer is being realised. This project is part of EU LIFE PHOS4EU.

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## **Process steps ViviMag®**

- 1. Iron is added to wastewater to bind phosphorus, increasing effluent quality.
- 2. In anaerobic conditions (e.g. sludge buffers), iron and phosphorus form vivianite.
- 3. Vivianite is a paramagnetic mineral, enabling recovery via magnetic separation.
- 4. Magnetic separation techniques, adapted from the mining industry, separate vivianite from sludge.

The technology was first piloted at Nieuwveer WWTP in 2019, offering a novel and sustainable route for phosphorus recovery.

