



# Enabling the paper sector's decarbonisation via anaerobic digestion. (PAPERdecarb)

Silvia Tedesco & Alejandra Diaz De Rienzo (University of Salford) & John Cloughley (e4structures Ltd.)

## Summary

This project builds on a previous project that identified the methanogenic potential of paper sludge as feedstock for anaerobic digestion, it investigated hydrothermal pretreatment and microbial acclimation to enhance methane yield.

### Aims

- To investigate the biochemical methane potential from treated and untreated with and without microbial acclimation.
- To validate the best results over a long period to ascertain stable methane production can be achieved.

### Outcomes

- Pre-treatment enhances total methane production, particularly when coupled with acclimation.
- Microbial acclimation significantly improves methane yield and shortens lag time, enabling more robust AD performance while saving on pretreatment costs.

