

# MANAGEMENT OPTIONS FOR DOMESTIC WASTE WATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS SLUDGES

## WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

THERE ARE  
**500,000**  
SEPTIC TANKS NATIONWIDE


WATER  
POLLUTION



## RESEARCH FINDINGS



**473,000m<sup>3</sup>**  
TOTAL SEPTIC TANK SLUDGE  
GENERATED EVERY YEAR



That would cover  
Croke Park to **37m**

**50%**  
Only 50% of sludge  
can be treated  
in current facilities



**85%**  
of septic tanks are  
over 25km away  
from a WWTP with  
spare capacity


## DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS

**1**  
HAVE YOUR  
TANK  
EMPTIED  
REGULARLY

YOU MUST MAINTAIN  
YOUR SEPTIC TANK

Potentially  
**80%**  
more  
efficient

**2**  
DESLUDGING ROTAS  
Introduction of  
DE-WATERING TRUCKS



**3**  
MORE OPTIONS FOR SLUDGE  
RECYCLING or DISPOSAL



Convert to  
fertilisers



Recycling to  
energy crops



Incineration  
& pyrolysis

**4** INFRASTRUCTURE  
Investment is needed  
for infrastructure  
improvements



**5** QUALITY AND  
TRACEABILITY  
A quality system is needed  
to control the use of treated  
sludge as fertiliser including  
full traceability back to crop  
production



**6** CHANGE THE  
LEGISLATION  
Amendments are  
needed to make  
sludge recycling to  
energy crops a  
realistic disposal  
option

