



## **Project**

### **Sustainable urban water cycle**

Recovery and optimization of energy produced by the waste water treatment is one of the main focuses of the European project INNERS – stands for INNovative Energy Recovery Strategies in the urban water cycle - in which Lille Métropole is involved. 11 partners from 6 different countries – France, Belgium, Germany, Netherlands and UK – cooperate through this project until December 2014. Acknowledged for its expertise, Lille Métropole has been a partner of that project since October 2010.

Waste water treatment is an insufficiently used source of energy. It is however considerable and justifies the aim of INNERS European project which is to develop “a sustainable, neutral or even positive energy urban water cycle”.

Lille Métropole regularly attends the four working groups, particularly those dedicated to the optimization of thermal energy in waste water treatment plants and to innovative energy approaches. The next partner meeting will take place in Lille Métropole the 11 and 12 September.

Lille Métropole expects a lot from these discussions and technical researches. It will particularly allow Lille Métropole to achieve the carbon balance of the sewerage system and to identify the potential energy savings in that field. Lille Métropole will also have a deeper cooperation with European partners working on increasing energy production in waste water treatment plants.

Lastly, Lille Métropole will examine the feasibility to produce heat for public facilities from the sewage system. It is actually this point that studies and works are the most focused on: Lille Métropole is currently seeking to map the energy potential of its sewerage systems. The innovative solutions that will enable to reduce investment costs and maintenance constraints are currently being studied for the recovery of that energy.

The European Union, through the Interreg IV B North West Europe programme, funds this project up to 50%, or maximum of 500,325 euros.